FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 TWELFTH STREET SW
WASHINGTON DC 20554

MEDIA BUREAU
AUDIO DIVISION
APPLICATION STATUS: (202) 418-2730
HOME PAGE: www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/

ENGINEER: CHARLES N. (NORM) MILLER
TELEPHONE: (202) 418-2767
FACSIMILE: (202) 418-1410
E-MAIL: charles.miller@fcc.gov

September 3, 2010

Dennis J. Kelly, Esq.
Box 41177
Washington, DC 20018

Re: WIHM(AM), Taylorville, Illinois
Facility Identification Number: 42644
Covenant Network
Special Temporary Authorization

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed September 2, 2010, on behalf of Covenant Network ("CN"). CN requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WIHM with parameters at variance from licensed values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits.[1]

In support of the request, CN states that certain repairs need to be made to the station's antenna system, including replacement of the transmission line to one of the towers.

Our review indicates that the proposed STA operation complies with the technical provisions of Section 73.1615, which governs operation during modification of facilities. We note that replacement of a transmission line may require temporary operation with a nondirectional antenna and reduced power. Such operation will be authorized, on an "only as necessary" basis.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WIHM may operate with parameters at variance from licensed values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. Operation with a temporary nondirectional antenna, with reduced power not to exceed 0.25 kilowatt daytime and 0.015 kW nighttime also is authorized, only as necessary to facilitate the repair work. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. CN must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.[2] CN must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310.

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[1] WIHM is licensed for operation on 1410 kHz with 1 kilowatt daytime and 0.063 kilowatt nighttime, employing different directional antenna patterns during daytime and nighttime hours. (DA-2-U).

[2] *See* 47 CFR §§ 73.45(c), 73.51, 73.54, 73.61(b)

This authority expires on **March 3, 2011**.

STA Advisory: Section 309(f) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the Commission to grant STA in cases of "extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary authorizations in the public interest and when delay in the institution of the temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest." However, Section 309(f) is not a means by which a licensee/permittee may circumvent established processing procedures which require the filing of an application, nor is it a means by which a broadcaster may enhance his facility or make operation more convenient for the broadcaster. Stations operating with less than licensed facilities under temporary authorities can be viewed as receiving the benefit of a larger protection area than that in which they are currently providing service.

Accordingly, Special Temporary Authorities by nature are to be temporary and are not intended for extended use. Licensees of stations operating under temporary authorities are reminded that timely restoration of permanent facilities is the responsibility of the licensee and should be undertaken expeditiously. Any request for extension of special temporary authorities carries an increased burden with each subsequent request.

Therefore, requests for extension of STA will be granted only where the licensee can show that one or more of the following criteria have been met:

- Restoration of licensed facilities is complete and testing is underway;
- Substantial progress has been made during the most recent STA period toward restoration of licensed operation; or
- No progress has been made during the most recent STA period for reasons clearly beyond the licensee's control, and the licensee has taken all possible steps to expeditiously resolve the problem.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Miller, Engineer
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Covenant Network