

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 TWELFTH STREET SW
WASHINGTON DC 20554**

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

ENGINEER: Jerome J. Manarchuck
TELEPHONE: (202) 418-7226
FACSIMILE: (202) 418-1410
E-MAIL: jerome.manarchuck@fcc.gov

September 6, 2019

Carter Broadcasting Corporation
50 Braintree Hill Park
Suite 308
Braintree, MA 03038

Re: Carter Broadcasting Corporation
WCRN(AM), Worcester, MA
Facility Identification Number: 9201
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Applicant:

This is in reference to the request filed September 3, 2019, on behalf of Carter Broadcasting Corporation ("CBC"). CBC requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate station WCRN(AM) with parameters at variance from license values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within license limits.¹ Specifically, CBC requests that station WCRN(AM) be permitted to operate with the station's nighttime pattern during daytime hours.

In support of the request, CBC states that lightning damage to the pattern controller prevents the station from switching between the day and night patterns. Since daily pattern changes are not possible until the controller is repaired, the station requests STA to operation full time with the station's nighttime directional pattern.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED, however the daytime power must be reduced. Station WCRN(AM) may operate with parameters at variance from licensed values and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. Specifically, the station may operate full time with the station's currently licensed nighttime directional antenna pattern but with the **daytime power reduced to 18.9 kilowatts**. No changes are proposed to the nighttime operation. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. WCRN(AM) must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.² WCRN(AM) 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.

¹ WCRN(AM) is licensed for operation on 830 kHz with a daytime and nighttime power of 50 kilowatts, employing different directional antenna patterns (DA2-U).

² *See* 47 CFR §§ 73.45(c), 73.51, 73.61(b).

This authority expires on **March 5, 2020**.

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,



Jerome J. Manarchuck
Audio Division
Media Bureau

cc: Melodie A. Virtue, Esq. (via email only)