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June 16, 2008

Mick Woolf, Manager
WEFT/Prairie Air, Inc.
Box 1223
Champaign, Illinois 61824

Re: WEFT/Prairie Air, Inc.
WEFT(FM), Champaign, Illinois
Facility Identification Number: 71429
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Mr. Woolf:

This is in reference to the request filed June 12, 2008, on behalf of WEFT/Prairie Air, Inc. ("WPA"). WPA requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WEFT with reduced power.[1] In support of the request, WPA states that its transmitter has been damaged by lightning and must be repaired or replaced. WPA states that it has restored operation with a backup transmitter, and requests STA for operation with reduced power pending restoration of licensed operation.

Section 73.1560(d), which governs reduced power operation, states:

In the event it becomes technically impossible to operate at authorized power, a broadcast station may operate at reduced power for a period of not more than 30 days without specific authority from the FCC. If operation at reduced power will exceed 10 consecutive days, notification must be made to the FCC in Washington, DC, Attention: Audio Division (radio) or Video Division (television), Media Bureau, not later than the 10th day of the lower power operation. In the event that normal power is restored within the 30 day period, the licensee must notify the FCC of the date that normal operation was restored. If causes beyond the control of the licensee prevent restoration of the authorized power within 30 days, a request for Special Temporary Authority (see Section 73.1635) must be made to the FCC in Washington, DC for additional time as may be necessary.

Our review indicates that the request complies with Section 73.1560(d).

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WEFT may continue to operate with reduced power. WPA must notify the Commission when licensed operation is

[1] WEFT is licensed for operation on Channel 211B1 (90.1 MHz) with effective radiated power of 10 kW (H), 8.5 kW (V), (Max-DA) and antenna height above average terrain of 99 meters.

restored. WPA 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.

This authority expires on **September 16, 2008**.

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: WEFT/Prairie Air, Inc.