



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554  
August 11, 2022

Ryan M. Vandewiele, VP&GC  
Washington DC FCC License Sub, LLC  
3415 University Avenue, West  
St. Paul, MN 55114 - 2099

Re: Washington DC FCC License Sub, LLC  
(WDFL)  
WWFD(AM), Frederick, MD  
Facility ID Number 47104  
Special Temporary Authority (STA)  
BESTA-20220727AAA  
Request for Experimental Authority

Dear Mr. Vandewiele:

This is in reference to the request filed on July 27, 2022. WDFL requests a final one year extension of the experimental authorization STA originally granted on July 6, 2018, to continue day and night testing of the all-digital MA3 AM transmission technology, as defined in the inband/on-channel (IBOC) Digital Radio Broadcasting Standard (NRSC-5-D) developed by the National Radio Systems Committee (NRSC), using the licensed WWFD(AM) facilities specified in BL-19910827AC.<sup>1</sup>

As noted in our July 6, 2018, experimental STA authorization: the digital power level will be equivalent to and not exceed the analog power level by more than 5% of the maximum power authorized; representatives of Xperi, Kintronic Laboratories, Cavell, Mertz & Associates, Inc. and senior station engineering personnel will maintain proper adjustment of the exciter and associated RF systems to assure optimum all-digital transmission and compliance with the Commission's Rules regarding occupied bandwidth and spurious emissions; purpose of the testing will involve demonstrations of representative equipment, methods and techniques, subjective coverage testing, and assessing the increasing potential for the general public to readily receive all digital AM transmissions with commercially-available receivers. Our previous review indicated that the

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<sup>1</sup> National Radio Systems Committee NRSC-5-C In-band/on-channel Digital Radio Broadcasting Standard, September 2011; Doc. No. SY\_SSS\_1 082s rev. F, HD Radio AM Transmission System Specifications, iBiquity Digital Corporation, 8/24/11.

experimental operation met the requirements of 47 CFR Section 5.203 of the Commission's Rules, and WDFL did not mention any interference complaints over the past four years, therefore we find that the public interest would be served through additional testing.

Accordingly, the request for extension of the experimental authority IS HEREBY GRANTED, and WDFL may continue to operate as described above. This authority shall be terminated if complaints of interference are received (unless eliminated immediately by power reduction/other means). The station may also operate using the licensed analog antenna system from time to time as needed over the next year. WDFL shall take whatever means are necessary to prevent excessive exposure of workers or the public to radio frequency radiation, pursuant to 47 CFR Section 1.1310 of the Commission's Rules. Within 60 days following final completion of the experimental operation authorized herein, WDFL shall file a full PDF report detailing the research, experimentation and results of the testing with the Commission, pursuant to 47 CFR Section 5.203(d) of the Commission's Rules via e-mail to [Son.Nguyen@fcc.gov](mailto:Son.Nguyen@fcc.gov) and [Jerry.Manarchuck@fcc.gov](mailto:Jerry.Manarchuck@fcc.gov).

This authority expires on **August 10, 2023**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Szczesny". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joe" being particularly prominent.

Joseph Szczesny, Engineer  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: David A. O'Connor, Esq., WBK LLP (via email only)