

0078-EX-ST-1998

Re: request for STA
6/12/98

December 4, 1998

Federal Communications Commission
Experimental Radio Services
P.O. Box 358320
Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5320

Re: SOPHIA Communications, Inc. — Request for Immediate Special Temporary Authority for Modification to Experimental Radio Authorization WA2FXH

Dear Sir/Madam:

SOPHIA Communications, Inc. ("Applicant") hereby submits for filing an original and one copy of an immediate request for special temporary authority ("STA") pursuant to Section 5.56 of the Commission's rules.

Applicant seeks STA to utilize additional frequencies recently won at auction in its ongoing tests establishing the technical and commercial viability of new technology for the provision of mobile radio services in the 220 MHz band. Applicant seeks STA immediately and for a period of 60 days pending processing and grant of its FCC Form 442 modification application for permanent authorization filed December 4, 1998. For reference, a copy of this application is enclosed.

Applicant submits the following information in support of its immediate STA request:

(1) Name and address:

SOPHIA Communications, Inc.
800 Brickell Avenue, Suite 1110
Miami, FL 33131

(2) Need for special action:

SOPHIA Licensee, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Applicant, is one of the very recent winning bidders for several licenses in the Phase II 220 MHz Service Auction, including the regional license for Economic Area Grouping 4 - Great Lakes (EAG004 - Channel Block G). By this application, Applicant seeks to add the channels which will eventually be part of its system in this region in order to continue testing mobile radio service technologies in the 220 MHz band. The only modifications proposed by this application are the addition of these channels. All other technical and operating parameters remain unchanged.

use of the spectrum is secondary to existing tenants' use and will immediately discontinue experimental activity whenever such activity causes harmful interference to primary users.

(4) Purpose of operation:

The purpose for this experimental license authorization is to exploit newly developed technologies in a wide-area, wireless-data network. The subject request for STA seeks to add to the existing authorization those frequencies that Applicant's wholly-owned subsidiary acquired at auction. The developing system will utilize components of TDMA and CDMA techniques in a narrowband, linear environment at 220 MHZ. Data rates starting at 9600 bps will migrate during the period of this research to a target rate of 28.8 kbps using a recently developed data protocol that promises increased RF bandwidth efficiency and increased reliability (and therefore increased data throughput) over prevalent data protocols. The research includes a number of related investigations including the management of cellular-like sectoring of packet-data transmissions at VHF frequencies and the end-to-end management of wireless packet data messages.

(5) Time and date of proposed operation:

Applicant would like to commence operations on the additional frequencies immediately, and requires STA until its application for modification to its permanent authority is granted.

(6) Class of station, call sign of station and nature of service:

The operation involves base and mobile stations for purposes of testing 220 MHZ operations. The call sign of the existing station for which Applicant seeks modification and STA is WA2FXH (File No. 6104-EX-PL-1998).

(7) Location of proposed operation:

There will be three base stations and associated mobiles operating in the following counties: Cook and Dupage Counties, Illinois, and Lake County, Indiana.

(8) Equipment to be used, including name of manufacturer, model and number of units:

The transmitting equipment to be installed for purposes of this STA request includes the following transmitters:

Base Stations: SEA, model ESP1000 / 1000T (FCC ID: BZ68RIESP1000T)
 SEA, model ESP1100 / 1100T (FCC ID: BZ6ESP1100)

Total No. of Base Units: 3

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Mobile Stations: SEA, model ESP520 / 520D / 520DX (FCC ID: BZ68RIESP504)
SEA, model 504 (FCC ID: BZ68RIESP504)
SEA, model SEA700 (FCC ID: BZ6ESP700)
SOPHIA, model EXPERIMENTAL

Total No. of Mobile Units: 30

(9) Frequencies desired (MHZ):

The 220 MHz channels for the EAG4-Great Lakes region are:

220.0175
220.0425
220.0675
220.1675
220.1925
220.2175
220.3175
220.3425
220.3675
220.4675
220.4925
220.5175
220.6175
220.6425
220.6675
221.0175
221.0425
221.0675
221.1675
221.1925
221.2175
221.3175
221.3425
221.3675
221.4675
221.4925
221.5175
221.6175
221.6425
221.6675

(10) Plate power input to final radio frequency stage: (Not applicable.)

(11) Type of emission:

The following emission designators are specified: 4K00J2D and 4K00J3E.

(12) Overall height of antenna structure above ground:

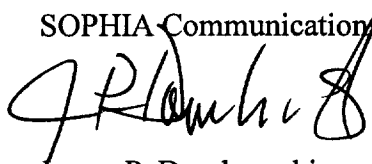
The overall height above ground to the antennas will vary. Accordingly, Applicant will determine if notification to the FAA is required prior to constructing and operating the proposed system. If notification is required, Applicant will obtain any necessary clearance or ensure that clearance has already been obtained.

Applicant certifies that no party to the application, including its partners and affiliates, is subject to a denial of federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 853(a).

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Applicant's counsel, Jeffrey S. Cohen, Wilkinson, Barker, Knauer & Quinn, LLP, 2300 N Street, N.W., Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20037-1128, (202) 783-4141.

Sincerely,

SOPHIA Communications, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. P. Dombrowski", is written over the printed name.

James P. Dombrowski
Vice President of Technical Operations

ORIGINAL

WILKINSON, BARKER, KNAUER & QUINN, LLP

Washington, DC
Frankfurt, Germany

2300 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037-1128

telephone: 202.783.4141
facsimile: 202.783.5851

December 7, 1998

Via Hand Delivery

Federal Communications Commission
Experimental Radio Services
P.O. Box 358320
Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5320

c/o Mellon Bank
Three Mellon Bank Center
525 William Penn Way, 27th Floor, Room 153-2713
Pittsburgh, PA 15259-0001
Attn: Wholesale Lockbox Shift Supervisor

Re: SOPHIA Communications, Inc. — Request for Immediate Special Temporary
Authority for Modification to Experimental Radio Authorization WA2FXH

Dear Sir/Madam:

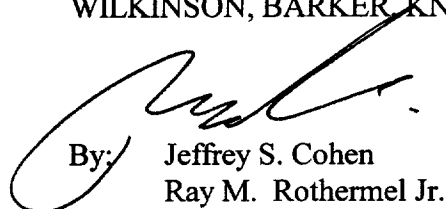
Pursuant to Section 5.56 of the Commission's rules, SOPHIA Communications, Inc., by its attorneys, hereby submits an original and one copy of a Request for Special Temporary Authority ("STA") to modify an Experimental Radio Service station.

This request is accompanied by an FCC Form 159 and a check made payable to the Federal Communications Commission for \$45 for the prescribed filing fee (Fee Code EAE).

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

WILKINSON, BARKER, KNAUER & QUINN, LLP


By: Jeffrey S. Cohen
Ray M. Rothermel Jr.

Enclosures