

Request for Extension of Silent Special Temporary Authorization
TV Translator Station W08DP, Springfield, IL (Facility ID 70620)

Pursuant to Sections 74.763 and 73.1635 of the FCC's Rules, West Central Illinois Educational Telecommunications Corp. ("WCIETC"), licensee of noncommercial educational TV translator Station W08DP, Springfield, Illinois, respectfully requests an extension of the station's existing Silent Special Temporary Authorization ("STA"). WCIETC filed a notification of silent status and request for STA for W08DP on June 28, 2017 in FCC File No. 0000025275. The FCC granted the STA on June 28, 2017, and it is currently due to expire on December 28, 2017. WCIETC now seeks an extension of the STA through June 18, 2018.

As explained in the original filing, Station W08DP has been off-air since June 18, 2017 as a result of technical issues beyond the licensee's control. Specifically, a transmitter failure involving problems with the power amplifier and power supply units forced the station off-air. Since the discovery of these problems, WCIETC has been evaluating the extent of the damage and repair needs, including contacting outside vendors for additional information and analysis. Following the initial grant of STA, WCIETC has continued to reassess the W08DP facility status and the options for restoring service. However, it has determined that the analog translator's transmitter is irreparably damaged. Moreover, additional circumstances such as the impact of the Post-Incentive Auction repack process on secondary services such as the W08DP translator, and the digital conversion requirements and timeline for TV translators must now be taken into account as well. In consideration of those factors and the equipment damage beyond its control, WCIETC has been unable to complete a restoration of operation of W08DP to date and requires additional time to review and address the translator facility plans. WCIETC respectfully submits that a grant of an STA extension will serve the public interest by allowing WCIETC the necessary time to fully review and address the translator's operational future in light of its equipment issues and the larger scale matters impacting the TV translator broadcast environment.

WCIETC is a noncommercial educational licensee and it operates W08DP on a noncommercial educational basis. The licensee is therefore exempt from FCC filing fee requirements, pursuant to Section 1.1116 of the Commission's Rules, and the facility is exempt from FCC regulatory fees, pursuant to Section 1.1162 of the Rules.