

WLII/WSUR License Partnership, G.P., licensee of WSTE-DT (the “Station”), Ponce, Puerto Rico, hereby requests Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) to operate at reduced power. The Station is currently operating by Silent STA (initially granted October 20, 2017 and extended April 26, 2018) following operations that were interrupted by Hurricane Maria on September 20, 2017. Because the Station is currently listed as “Licensed and Silent” in the LMS database and because large portions of the DTS system are in fact back in service, the Station is seeking to update its operational status via the filing of a reduced power STA.

For background, the Station operates a distributed transmission system (DTS), comprising five sites near Puerto Rico’s population centers. At this point in time, service has been restored to areas covered by four of the five transmission sites. The Monte del Estado site (#5), serving the southwest corner of the island, has yet to be restored to service due to delays in the restoration of its failed microwave ICR feed links.

The Aguas Buenas (#2) site, serving San Juan, the Commonwealth’s capital city, suffered loss of its transmitter due to water damage. Operation was restored from the nearby site of sister station WLII-DT, using an extra transmitter and the WLII-DT backup antenna, as granted under the previous STA. By this request, WSTE-DT seeks to continue that operation while evaluating the prospective restoration of the Aguas Buenas site.

The Aguada (#3) transmitter is not currently synchronized with the other 3 operating sites. It presently receives WSTE-DT programming off-the-air from a sub-channel of WLII-DT and retransmits it asynchronously. The microwave intercity relay (ICR) system that normally delivers the transport stream and synchronizing signal to the Aguada site failed during the hurricane and has not yet been restored. The Monte del Estado (#5) site’s ICR originates at the Aguada site and is dependent upon restoration of the inbound link to Aguada for operation.

As previously disclosed in the STA extension request granted 04/26/18, the following table indicates the restoration date of each site:

#1 Ponce 12/15/2017
#2 San Juan* 10/29/2017
#3 Aguada 11/30/2017
#4 Arecibo 11/9/2017
#5 Monte del Estado (not restored)

*Via WLII-DT site using WLII-DT auxiliary antenna under previous STA