

WLIO(TV) – Request for Increase in ERP

WLIO(TV), Lima, Ohio, is currently co-located on a tower with its sister station, WOHL-CD, Lima, Ohio. As a result of the Incentive Auction, WOHL is moving from its currently licensed channel (Channel 35) to a new channel (Channel 15). Given the age of the stations' current tower, after review by a structural engineer, it was determined that the current tower cannot support the stations going forward when WOHL moves to its new channel and needs to install new equipment. See, e.g., FCC File No. 0000029918. Accordingly, both stations have filed applications to move to a new tower location.

WLIO filed its application to move to the new tower during the temporary lifting of the FCC's filing freeze. See Public Notice, *Media Bureau Temporarily Lifts the Freeze on the Filing of Minor Modification Applications that Expand the Contour of Full Power and Class A Television Stations from November 28 Through December 7, 2017*, DA 17-1086 (rel. Nov. 6, 2017). As part of its application, WLIO requested to expand its contour as shown in Exhibit E-5 of the attached Engineering Statement. After filing the application, WLIO was informed by FCC staff that its original application was not in compliance with the FCC's height/power limits. Accordingly, as explained in the attached Engineering Exhibit, WLIO is filing to modify its pending application to reduce the requested power (from 50 kW to 40 kW).

WLIO notes that another station in the Lima market, WTLW, filed and had granted a major modification application that will allow WTLW to greatly expand its contour area. Accordingly, WLIO requests authority under 47 C.F.R. Section 73.622(f)(5) to increase its ERP "up to that needed to provide the same geographic coverage area as the largest station within their market." WLIO notes that at 40 kW, the WLIO coverage area will still be slightly smaller than the WTLW coverage area.

Alternatively, to the extent necessary, WLIO requests a waiver of the FCC's height/power limits as found in 47 C.F.R. Section 73.622(f)(7). As explained in the Engineering Statement, grant of the requested waiver is in the public interest because it will increase the station's signal level sufficiently to allow local viewers to receive the station over-the-air.