

Request to Extend STA for Interim Pre-Transition Channel Operations

This STA extension request seeks continued, ongoing authority for WLWT to operate periodically on its pre-transition channel 35 from the station's interim antenna during certain construction phases of WLWT's repack project to transition from its existing channel 35 to its post-transition channel 20. STA was originally granted in LMS File No. [0000050307](#), and most recently extended in LMS File No. [0000062810](#), which is scheduled to expire on April 14, 2019.

As WLWT continues to work on its repack project, WLWT will periodically shut down its current primary antenna and move its operation over to its side-mount interim antenna. Precise dates and periods of side-mount interim antenna operation remain unknowable. As a Phase 6 repack station (deadline to transition is October 18, 2019), WLWT expects that this is likely to be the final STA extension request for channel 35 operations from the side-mount interim antenna.

Extension of STA for interim operations from WLWT's side-mount antenna is in the public interest because it is in furtherance of WLWT's repack transition plan. Indeed, the Commission has specifically contemplated precisely this type of temporary, "interim" operation in furtherance of the overall post-Auction transition in order to facilitate continuity of service for viewers and to avoid stations being off-the-air for periods of time during construction activities of repacked stations. *See, e.g., Incentive Auction Task Force and Media Bureau Adopt a Post-Incentive Auction Transition Scheduling Plan*, Public Notice, 32 FCC Rcd 890 (2018), ¶ 62 ("[I]nterim and auxiliary facilities will be an important part of the transition for broadcasters and we will take action as appropriate to facilitate the use of such facilities and equipment.").

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