

Request for Extension of WBSF Construction Permit (File No. 0000068742)

Flint (WBSF-TV) Licensee, Inc. (“WBSF”), licensee of digital television broadcast station WBSF, Bay City, MI (FAC. Id. No. 82627) (the “Station”), hereby requests a brief extension of its post-auction construction permit for Channel 23 (*See* File No. 0000068742). As described herein, the Station transitioned to its post-auction Channel 23 on June 21, 2019, but the Station’s main transmission line installation has been unexpectedly delayed due to inclement weather. Consequently, the Station is using an interim transmission line at 50 percent reduced power and is working diligently to complete installation of the main transmission line.

Because the Station’s 6-1/8” transmission line required for the full-power operation (600 kW) is not completely stacked on the tower, the Station was unable to achieve full power on its new Channel 23 prior to the Phase 3 deadline. However, the Station does have an authorized Channel 23 antenna and 3-1/8” transmission line on the tower which allowed the Station to timely transition to Channel 23 by the Phase 3 deadline at a reduced power of 300 kW. *See* pending DTV Engineering STA Application (File No. 0000074896; Status Date June 21, 2019).

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 73.3700(b)(5), the Media Bureau has the authority to provide an extension of the construction deadline for up to six months if the reassigned station encounters circumstances that include weather delays, construction delays, tower lease disputes, unusual technical challenges and permitting and zoning delays.

The Station also respectfully requests a waiver of the Commission’s requirement that requests for extension of post-auction construction deadlines be submitted 90 days prior to the existing construction permit deadline. The Station further respectfully requests reinstatement of its construction permit and a 180 day extension of the post-auction construction permit. Grant of this waiver request and the extension of the construction permit would be in the public interest as it would allow the Station to operate at lower power and continue to provide service to viewers until the Station completes the necessary construction.