

WCAU Request for Engineering Special Temporary Authority

Description of Request

WCAU, Philadelphia, PA (FIN 63153) ("WCAU") has a construction permit for operation on post-auction channel 28 (LMS File Number 0000074277). WCAU hereby requests special temporary authority (STA) to test this facility on post-auction channel 28 before permanently ceasing operation on its pre-auction channel 34. This testing is necessary to ensure the transmitter and antenna system will work properly on the new, post-auction channel. An engineering STA is required because WCAU testing and early transition on post-auction channel 28 is predicted to cause interference above the allowed two percent threshold of 3.09 percent to WCPB, Salisbury, MD (FIN 40618) ("WCPB"), terrain limited coverage on its pre-auction channel 28 when studied with Longley Rice error codes ignored. This worst case scenario was used to speed analysis in an environment where other stations may or may not be operating on the pre-auction channels.

WCAU will coordinate testing dates and times with WCPB at least 24 hours before testing begins. An agreement from WCPB agreeing to accept interference from WCAU testing on its post-auction channel 28 is attached. To the extent possible, testing will take place during overnight hours after midnight and before 5 AM.

In addition to the testing, WCAU, in coordination with other broadcasters in the Hartford, New York, Philadelphia and Washington D.C. markets, plans to transition to channel 28 at 1 PM on August 1, 2019, before WCPB plans to transition to its new channel. WCPB has agreed to accept interference from WCAU from this time until WCPB transitions to its post-auction channel.

A grant of this engineering STA request is in the public interest as it will allow WCPB to remain on air and serve the majority of the viewers in its service area, while WCAU completes testing essential to a successful transition on August 1, 2019 at 1PM. WCAU must transition at this time to allow transitions in New York and Hartford at the date and time coordinated in those markets.

Environmental

This engineering STA will use the facility previously authorized in WCAU Construction Permit LMS File Number 0000074277. Refer to the application for that facility for a complete environmental analysis.

Doug Lung
July 2, 2019