

Off-Air Notification and Request for Special Temporary Authority Exhibit

On July 31, 2019, KM LPTV of Atlanta, L.L.C. (“KM”), licensee of Class A television station WSKC-CD Atlanta GA (Facility ID No. 35090, “WSKC”), notified the Commission that on a maintenance visit on that date due to viewer complaints, its contract engineer found that 2 of the transmitter’s 3 amplifiers had failed, resulting in a significant loss of transmitter power, leaving the station operating at about 20% of its authorized power. See LMS File No. 0000079204 (the “Reduced Power Notification”). The Reduced Power Notification also advised that since WSKC would be taken off the air on Saturday, August 3, 2019, as the start of the construction of the station’s authorized repack Channel 14 facilities (which includes the installation of a new transmitter), the current Channel 22 transmitter would not be repaired, but that KM anticipated that WSKC should return to the air with its new Channel 14 facilities this week.

By this notification, KM advises that the old Channel 22 transmitter was removed on Saturday, August 3, 2019, as planned, and that WSKC is now off the air. However, after discovering miscommunications among its vendors regarding the repack Channel 14 facilities construction, KM now does not expect WSKC to return to the air this week, and therefore respectfully requests special temporary authority (“STA”) to be silent. Specifically, while KM thought it had its vendors aligned to construct the new repack Channel 14 facilities on Tuesday, August 6, 2019, and actually has the tower crew on site to do the antenna replacement on the tower, KM as since found that: (i) KM has site access issues with its tower company, Crown Castle, which may delay the tower crew and its antenna installation work, due to an issue with its certificate of insurance (although KM has been working diligently since last Thursday on that issue, and still hopes to have the issue resolved tomorrow to allow the antenna installation to proceed, while its tower crew is at the site), and (ii) KM’s transmitter vendor is now not available to install the new repack Channel 14 antenna until the August 22-24, 2019 timeframe.

Further, while KM’s transmitter vendor advised last week that its installation team could and would do the testing required to ensure no objectionable interference to authorized land mobile radio (“LMR”) users within WSKC’s service area (as required by a condition on KM’s repack Channel 14 construction permit, LMS File No. 0000034530), a showing of which is required for KM to request program test authority (“PTA”) to operate on Channel 14, that vendor advised this afternoon that they may not be able to do the necessary LMR testing (which may leave KM seeking an alternate engineer or vendor for that task).

Therefore, the above circumstances being considered, KM respectfully requests STA for WSKC to be silent, until the construction of its repack Channel 14 facilities and required LMR testing may be completed, and PTA requested and granted. The public interest would be served by grant of this request, since WSKC could not continue to operate at full power on Channel 22 in any event, and by going silent the two other stations in transition Phase 5, in Linked Station Set (“LSS”) #42, that are dependent on WSKC going off the air from Channel 22 to do their repack transition (and who will be notified by email of this silent STA request), would be able to proceed with their repack transition construction.