

Request to Extend Construction Permit
WVIR-TV, Charlottesville, VA (FID 70309)

Gray Television Licensee, LLC, the licensee of WVIR-TV, Charlottesville, Virginia (FID 70309), requests an extension of time to complete the facilities specified in the station's modified repack construction permit (File No. 0000034904). WVIR-TV will transition from its pre-auction facility using an interim facility on Channel 19 (File No. 90869) by its Phase expiration deadline of December 2, 2019. WVIR-TV will not be able to complete its final post-auction facility prior to the expiration date of its construction permit.

WVIR was granted a limited Phase 7 extension to December 2, 2019. Due to circumstances outside of its control, WVIR-TV is not be able to complete construction of its final authorized facilities by the expiration date of its construction permit.¹ Gray requests an extension of time of up to one hundred and eighty days (180) to complete construction of the WVIR-TV post-auction facility.

Section 73.3700(b)(5) provides that the Media Bureau may grant an extension of time up to six months for stations that are unable to complete construction of their post-auction facilities "due to circumstances that are either unforeseeable or beyond licensee's control."²

WVIR-TV is unable to complete construction of its post-auction facility because of several delays with the construction of its antenna. WVIR-TV is relocating to Channel 2. Although its antenna was ordered in January 2019 with a promised delivery date well in advance of its original August 2019 construction deadline, WVIR has yet to receive the antenna.

Most recently, the antenna manufacturer, promised delivery of the antenna by December 6, 2019. Assuming delivery of the antenna is completed as scheduled, WVIR-TV anticipates completion of its post auction facility by early to mid-January. However, because of the risk of severe weather or tower crew delays, Gray is requesting an extension of time for the maximum allowed period.

Gray respectfully requests an extension of the deadline of up to 180 days to allow it to complete construction of the final WVIR-TV post-auction facility.

¹ Gray requests that the Media Bureau accept this request for extension of its construction permit as late filed. 73.3700(b)(5)(iv) requires the filing of an extension request at least ninety (90) days prior to a station's construction permit deadline. As explained above, the station did not have confirmation until recently that the antenna would be delayed past its assigned deadline.

² 73.3700(b)(5)(i).