

WTGS (TV) – Request for STA to Operate on Interim Facilities

WTGS Licensee, LLC, licensee of station WTGS (TV), Hardeeville, SC, FIN 27245 (“WTGS”), hereby requests special temporary authority (“STA”), due to circumstances beyond its control, to operate on interim facilities while its permanent facilities are completed, and further requests a waiver of the Commission’s rules to the extent necessary. WTGS hereby respectfully requests permission to operate from interim facilities, for a period of 90 days from January 17, 2020 until April 16, 2020.

WTGS is assigned to transition from Channel 28 to Channel 26 in Phase 7 of the repack. WTGS’s construction of its permanent facilities has been delayed due to equipment delivery and crew delays. As of this filing, the station is currently working on installation of its temporary transmitter and antenna. The post-repack permanent top mount antenna and permanent transmitter have yet to be installed; therefore, WTGS plans to use an interim transmitter and interim antenna to effectuate the transition to its new post-repack channel. Because of the time needed to install the new main top mount antenna, WTGS will not be able to fully complete construction of its permanent post-repack facilities by the end of Phase 7 on January 17, 2020, but the station plans to cut-over using the interim facilities on its new channel on that date.

Thus, WTGS respectfully requests an STA to operate on its post-repack channel from interim facilities while construction is completed on its permanent facilities. This request will not impact the repack efforts of other stations because, prior to the completion of Phase 7, WTGS will still transition to its post-repack channel. For this reason, the grant of the instant STA request would be in the public interest because it would allow WTGS to broadcast on its post-repack channel without disruption to the overall repack.

WTGS will cease operations on its pre-auction facilities and begin broadcasting on its post-auction channel utilizing the above-referenced temporary facilities before the completion of Phase 7.