

WVIR-TV (Facility 70309)
Request for Extension of Engineering STA

Gray Television Licensee, LLC, licensee of WVIR-TV requests authority to continue operating with the facilities specified in this Engineering STA.

WVIR-TV has encountered several delays in constructing its repack facility as explained in previous filings. At this point, all needed equipment is on site. The station was on track to complete installation of its new antenna and all related equipment by the January 17, 2020 deadline, until its schedule was derailed by weather delays.

WVIR-TV's continued use of Channel 19 on a temporary basis must be coordinated with WAVY(TV). WAVY was assigned Channel 19 as its post-auction channel and assigned to Phase 7, which ends January 17, 2020. WAVY has requested authority to operate on Channel 19 using an interim facility with a lower power (File No. 0000096656). Gray has confirmed with WAVY that it plans to use this interim facility through mid-February.

While operating with their respective interim facilities, WVIR-TV and WAVY will not cause impermissible interference to each other. WVIR-TV's interim facility will cause only .14 percent interference to the WAVY interim facility. WAVY's interim facility, in turn, will cause 1.15 percent interference to the WVIR-TV interim facility.

As reflected in the attached email exchange, Gray commits to continue to coordinate with WAVY to ensure WVIR-TV's temporary use of Channel 19 does not cause impermissible interference to WAVY's final Channel 19 facility. If WVIR-TV has not transitioned to its final repack facility by the time WAVY is ready to begin operations with its full power Channel 19 facility, WVIR-TV will seek permission to operate using a lower power level that will not cause impermissible interference to WAVY.

From: "Brett E. Jenkins" <bjenkins@nexstar.tv>
Date: Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 12:42 PM
To: Robert Folliard <Robert.Folliard@gray.tv>, Elizabeth Ryder <eryder@nexstar.tv>
Cc: David Burke <david.burke@gray.tv>
Subject: RE: [Ext] WAVY Repack

Rob,

We'll be on the STA starting tomorrow on the post repack channel. Still trying to get the final schedule from Coast to Coast, but the goal is to have the top mounts rigged by mid February at the earliest...maybe with a week or slip due to weather and other typical issues. Might be good for us to touch base the second week of Feb and I'll have a better idea based on how much progress the tower crew has made.

Thanks for letting us know what's happening.

Cheers,
Brett

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From: Robert Folliard <Robert.Folliard@gray.tv>
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 10:40 AM

To: Elizabeth Ryder <eryder@nexstar.tv>
Cc: Brett E. Jenkins <bjenkins@nexstar.tv>; David Burke <david.burke@gray.tv>
Subject: [Ext] WAVY Repack

Elizabeth

I am reaching out to make sure we are all on the same page and have a clear understanding of WAVY-TV's repack plans. I assume that at some point tomorrow (which is the construction deadline for Phase 7) WAVY-TV will begin operating on its interim antenna on its new post-repack channel 19.

Our station WVIR-TV in Charlottesville, VA also is operating on Channel 19 and will stay on Channel 19 until we are able to complete construction of our post-repack facilities on Channel 2. We had expected to be done last week, but heavy fog in the Blue Ridge Mountains apparently delayed some of the work. All in all, WVIR-TV should be off Channel 19 within the next week or so.

If WAVY-TV is operating on its interim antenna on Channel 19, we will only cause 0.14% interference to WAVY, which is far below the 2% FCC limit and under FCC rules rounds down to 0% interference. Therefore, we plan to stay on Channel 19 at our existing power level 71 kW for the next week or so until we complete construction of our Channel 2 facilities. Before we do so, however, I want to confirm that Nexstar in fact intends to operate on its interim antenna while it removes its old antenna and installs a new Channel 19 antenna at the top of its tower.

Also, could you let us know (roughly) how long you plan to be on the interim antenna? I assume it will be a couple months. If so, we will be long done with our construction by then. But, if you are quicker than I expect, just email us when you plan to transition to your final post-repack facilities and, if we are still on Channel 19, we will promptly drop our power to 61 kW to ensure that we are not causing interference to WAVY above FCC limits.

Let me know if you have any questions.

-Rob



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