

WTVZ-TV – Request for STA to Operate on Interim Facilities

WTVZ Licensee, LLC, licensee of station WTVZ-TV, Norfolk, VA, FIN 40759 (“WTVZ”), hereby requests special temporary authority (“STA”), to operate on interim facilities while a new permanent facility is constructed. WTVZ hereby respectfully requests permission to operate from interim facilities, for a period of 180 days from January 27, 2020 until July 25, 2020.

WTVZ currently operates on Channel 33.¹ WTVZ has joined the new Community Broadband Antenna on the American Tower site in Norfolk, VA. This facility shares tower space three other stations, WGNT(TV), Portsmouth, Virginia (Facility ID No. 9762); WTKR-TV, Norfolk, Virginia (Facility ID No. 47401); and WHRO-TV, Hampton-Norfolk, Virginia (Facility ID No. 25932).² These three stations have been assigned new operating channels pursuant to the FCC’s repack process. Because of the antenna co-location, the post-auction channel change facility requires a coordinated transition by each of the stations. Specifically, the stations must move to a side mount antenna lower on the tower so that crews can perform the work to install the equipment necessary to continue operations on the main antenna once the work is complete. The new main antenna is physically replacing the current WTVZ main antenna on the top candelabra arm. Thus, WTVZ is seeking to operate on the auxiliary antenna while the required tower work is performed on the main antenna.

WTVZ respectfully requests an STA to operate on these interim facilities while work is performed on its permanent facilities. This request will not impact other stations. The grant of the instant STA request would be in the public interest because it would allow WTVZ to continue serving its community while other stations continue to transition to new channels as part of the repack process.

¹ WTVZ is not subject to the FCC repack process but shares a tower with the stations listed. Those stations are in Phase 9 of the repack and require tower modifications or operate on their new channels. *See* WGNT, FIN 9762; WTKR, FIN 47401; WHRO, FIN 25932.

² These stations have also filed STA requests to operate on interim facilities or effectuate a phase change. *See*: WGNT DTV Legal STA Application, File No. 0000081042; WTKR DTV Engineering STA Application, File No. 0000092553; WHRO DTV Engineering STA, File No. 0000087206.