

Request for Special Temporary Authority

WPXD-TV – Ann Arbor, Michigan

Facility ID: 5800

ION Media License Company, LLC (“ION”), licensee of television station WPXD-TV, Ann Arbor, Michigan (FCC Facility ID No. 5800), hereby requests Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) for WPXD-TV to operate on its post-auction channel utilizing an interim antenna. WPXD-TV has been reassigned to Channel 24 in the incentive auction’s repacking process and assigned to Transition Phase 8 of the repack with a Phase Completion Date of March 13, 2020.

WPXD-TV has a Construction Permit for its post-repack operations (FCC LMS File No. 0000034355). While WPXD-TV intends to transition to its post-auction channel during Phase 8, WPXD-TV has recently experienced construction scheduling delays during the repack process. As a result, insufficient time will remain prior to the Phase 8 deadline to complete all aspects of the work as originally contemplated.

ION has previously requested and received STA to operate on its pre-auction Channel 50 utilizing a temporary side-mount interim antenna at this tower site (FCC LMS File No. 0000090678). Accordingly, ION hereby seeks STA to operate on its post-auction Channel 24 using the same interim antenna. On its transition date, currently planned for March 13, 2020, WPXD-TV plans to retune the interim antenna to its post-auction channel and will continue to operate on its interim antenna, at a reduced effective radiated power of 69 kW, until the main antenna is installed and made operational. See attached Engineering Exhibit. ION has filed an Extension of a Construction Permit for WPXD-TV’s permanent post-auction facilities (FCC LMS File No. 0000106075).

Due to the significant construction delays explained above, ION respectfully seeks STA to transition to its post-auction Channel 24 with an interim antenna during its assigned Phase 8 while the tower modifications are being completed. Grant of this request for STA serves the public interest by allowing WPXD-TV to timely transition to its post-auction Channel 24 while it completes construction of its primary post-auction facility.