

Request for Extension of Construction Permit Deadline

WFMY Television, LLC (“Licensee”), licensee of WFMY-TV, Greensboro, NC (Facility ID 72064) (“WFMY”), hereby requests a 180-day extension of WFMY’s construction permit for its main post-Incentive Auction facility (File No. 0000028086) (the “Main CP”) – through October 28, 2020 – due to construction delays caused by the high demand for tower crews.¹

WFMY’s post-Auction facility requires the helicopter installation of a new top mount antenna and associated elbow complex. Licensee expects to receive the antenna and all other required equipment before the Main CP’s current deadline of May 1, 2020. However, the tower crew hired to complete the work informed Licensee on February 14, 2020, that the earliest available date to complete WFMY’s antenna installation is May 5, 2020.² In light of this delay, and the potential for further unforeseen setbacks, Licensee requests a 180-day extension of the Main CP construction deadline.

In the meantime, WFMY will use an interim antenna to cease operations on its pre-Auction channel and commence operations on its post-Auction channel by the Phase 9 deadline. Licensee shortly will file an appropriate application for special temporary authority to operate on its interim antenna.

Because WFMY will timely cease operation on its pre-Auction channel, granting the requested extension of the Main CP would have no effect on any party’s ability to complete its post-Auction transition. The extension thus would serve the public interest by facilitating the orderly completion of WFMY’s main post-Auction facility without impacting the broader repacking schedule.

¹ See 47 C.F.R. § 73.3700(b)(5)(ii)(B).

² To the extent necessary, Licensee thus requests that the Commission waive the requirement that requests for additional time to complete construction be filed at least 90 days in advance of the construction permit deadline, as Licensee only learned of the need for an extension on February 14, 2020. See § 73.3700(b)(5)(iv). For the reasons set forth herein, grant of this waiver would serve the public interest by allowing WFMY to complete construction of its permanent post-Auction facility in an orderly fashion, without affecting any other party’s repacking.