

KQDS-TV Request of Extension of Time

KQDS Acquisition Corp., the licensee of KQDS-TV, Duluth, Minnesota (FCC Facility ID 35525) (“KQDS”) nearly has completed its final transition from its historic Channel 17 to its permanent Channel 18 operation under its current construction permit. (LMS File No. 0000106367) KQDS currently is operating on its permanent channel pursuant to a grant of Special Temporary Authority under an interim operation, awaiting completion of construction of its permanent antenna. (LMS File No. 0000083238)

Unfortunately, by letter dated February 27, 2020, a copy of which is attached, Tower King II, Inc. informed KQDS that it would not be able to complete the construction this Spring, as previously anticipated by KQDS. Because of winter conditions in and around Duluth, Minnesota, Spring was the first opportunity to complete the KQDS construction. As shown in the attached letter, Tower King II now anticipates completion of construction in July 2020 via use of a helicopter.

KQDS urgently requests that the Commission extend its current construction permit and Special Temporary Authority for the maximum permissible period of time because construction will not be completed before the May 1, 2020 deadline currently in effect. The decision by Tower King II, Inc. to delay construction was outside of the control of KQDS and was contrary to KQDS’s understanding of when construction would have been completed. Extension of the authorizations for KQDS to continue its current interim operation, and complete construction in mid-to-late summer 2020, would be harmless to any other television station because KQDS already is operating on its authorized permanent, post-transition, channel.



Tower King II, Inc.
Foundations - Tower Erections - Turnkey
Offering solutions to the most difficult broadcast challenges.

469-272-3388 Main
469-272-3728 Fax

February 27, 2020

KQDS-Fox 21 Television
2001 London Rd.
Duluth, MN 55812

Attn: Chris Drovdal-Chief Engineer

Re: FCC Repack project for KQDS

Dear Chris, this message is to inform KQDS TV that Tower King has the repack project scheduled for July of 2020. Due to the size and weights of the equipment to be removed and installed on the 693' guyed tower located at 1421 N 3rd Ave W, Duluth, Minnesota, we sought the helicopter services of Erickson Air Crane.

Since Erickson is the only specialized helicopter service that can lift up to 19,500#, they are in great demand by tall tower companies for the repack projects. Their soonest date in their tight schedule is for July 18th to July 19th for the Duluth tower.

Tower King will mobilize crew and equipment about a week prior to that date, rig the tower and prepare the existing antennas for removal. At the same time, we will prepare the new equipment to be lifted onto tower top.

This is the soonest our crew and the helicopter company can accommodate your station. If anything should change in the schedule, we will definitely let all parties know.

Thanks for your patience and understanding.

Best Regards,

Charlie Lee-Operations Manager