

WGOM-LP  
Facility ID # 39341

## REQUEST FOR FURTHER EXTENSION OF SILENT STA AND WAIVER OF SECTION 312(g)

As previously detailed in Application #000080532 granted on 9/25/2019, Licensee Spectrum Solutions, LLC acquired the WGOM-LP license and assets on November 21, 2018 and upon consummation discovered that the station has gone silent arising from Hurricane Michael the prior month, presumably on or about the evening of October 10/11, 2018 when Hurricane Michael made landfall on the Florida Panhandle.

Spectrum Solutions, LLC requested and received Silent STA authority (0000063800) while it attempted to relocation the facility to ASR# 1263140 (which would have been a change of transmitter location).

Spectrum Solutions, LLC was unable to reach a lease agreement with the owner of the aforementioned tower site and has now located an alternative permanent site on the rooftop of an existing residential structure (No ASR# applicable) located at 9900 S Thomas Dr. Panama City Beach, FL 32408. Since the filing and grant of Application #000080532, Spectrum Solutions has obtained and has on-site the transmitter, antenna, transmission line and other equipment necessary to commence broadcasting from the proposed temporary facility at 8317 Front Beach Rd STE 23 Panama City, FL 32407 and was awaiting its consulting engineer, Wade Thomaston to travel this week to the site to inspect, take measurements and install the necessary equipment to be able to submit an Engineering STA to commence operations at that temporary location and a subsequent minor modification to license application to obtain a Construction Permit for permanent facilities at the aforementioned location with permissible operating parameters. However, Mr. Thomaston, who is 70 years old, is among the subject group especially susceptible to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and his corporate office has been closed due to a positive test among other employees. As such his ability to travel at this moment is restricted by applicable state and federal guidelines arising from the invocation of the National Emergency Act on March 13, 2020. The Commission has already recognized the lack of available engineering professionals in the current circumstances by permitting television stations in Phase 9 of the Spectrum Auction repack to defer transition until Phase 10, in part because of the unavailability of engineering professionals and tower crews (See, DA 20-282, released March 17, 2020).

Accordingly, and in light of the extraordinary circumstances facing the United States and its citizens, Spectrum Solutions, LLC requests the Commission extend the waiver of the application of 47 USC §312(g) previously granted herein, as it has in prior similar situations such as broadcasting facilities in Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria in 2017, to permit WGOM-LP to remain silent beyond March 24, 2020, in the interests of equity and fairness<sup>1</sup>. Having extended silent authority for many broadcasters in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria devastated

---

<sup>1</sup> See "MEDIA BUREAU PROVIDES GUIDANCE FOR BROADCAST LICENSEES STILL REBUILDING IN THE AFTERMATH OF HURRICANES IRMA AND MARIA" DA 18-901 released August 30, 2018.

the island in September 2017 beyond the 1 year limitation imposed by Section 312(g), Spectrum Solutions, LLC requests the same consideration for itself as a broadcaster affected by the equally damaging effects of Hurricane Michael in 2018, which sufficiently damaged the WGOM-LP licensed tower facility for it to have been subsequently demolished (and not scheduled to be reconstructed) and the unanticipated national emergency restricting the movement and interaction of persons due to the communicability of the COVID-19 virus. It is anticipated that once it is safe for our engineer to travel to Panama City, it will take a week to perform the necessary work to (a) complete and file the engineering STA for operation from the temporary rooftop to resume operations and (b) commence broadcasting immediately upon receipt of same; and it is expected to take approximately 120 days to file a new modification of license application for the permanent location, obtain grant of same, and move the equipment to the permanent location.

Spectrum Solutions, LLC therefore requests extension the Section 312(g) waiver and of silent authority for an additional 180 days in order to undertake the tasks described above and rebuild the facility.