W02CU-D - REASONS FOR REQUESTING ENGINEERING STA

AND NOTIFICATION OF OPERATIONAL STATUS

W02CU-D HAD BEEN OPERATING UNDER SILENT STA, FILE # 0000068324**,** DUE TO EXTENSIVE DAMAGES SUFFERED DURING HURRICANE MARIA. THE STATION RESUMED OPERATIONS ON JUNE 13, 2019 UNDER THE PARAMETERS OF ENG. STA, FILE # 0000068274.

THE STATION IS WORKING TO RECONSTRUCT ITS LICENSED FACILITIES, WHICH WILL TAKE ADDITIONAL TIME DUE TO THE VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION PUERTO RICO IS EXPERIENCING, INCLUDING AN UNPRECEDENTED SERIES OF EARTHQUAKES (MORE THAN 500 SEISMIC EVENTS SO FAR) THAT STARTED ON DECEMBER 28, 2019 AND HAVE NOT STOPPED, THE LAST ONE OCCURRING ON MAY 2, 2020, A STRONG MAGNITUDE 5.5 EARTHQUAKE. THIS HAS SIGNIFICANTLY DAMAGED THE ALREADY WEAKENED (BY HURRICANE MARIA) ELECTRICAL GRID AND FURTHER LESSENED ITS RELIABILITY (**SEE FCC PUBLIC NOTICE DA 20-28 "*PROCEDURES TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS IN AREAS AFFECTED BY PUERTO RICO EARTHQUAKES*"**), IN ADDITION TO THE DIFFICULT FINANCIAL SITUATION OF ISLAND, WHICH ENTERED OFFICIALLY IN BANKRUPTCY SINCE MAY 2017, PUERTO RICO HAS NOW BEEN HIT, LIKE EVERY OTHER US TERRITORY AND STATE, BY THE UNPRECEDENTED CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC. THESE NATURAL DISASTERS HAVE DISRUPTED THE ECONOMY AND LIFE IN GENERAL IN PUERTO RICO AND SEVERELY DISRUPTED THE OPERATION OF THE STATION W02CU-D.

IN THE INTERIM, THE STATION IS REQUESTING AN ENGINEERING STA, LIKE THE ONE PREVIOUSLY GRANTED, TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SERVICE AT REDUCED POWER, AS SHOWN IN THE ATTACHED FIGURE 1. THIS ENG. STA FOR W02CU-D IS REQUESTED FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS.