

Request for STA to Operate on Interim Facilities – WCTI-TV

WCTI Licensee, LLC, licensee of station WCTI-TV, New Bern, NC, FIN 18334 (“WCTI”), hereby requests special temporary authority (“STA”), due to circumstances beyond its control, to operate on interim facilities while its permanent facilities are completed, and further requests a waiver of the Commission’s rules to the extent necessary. WCTI requests an STA that will allow it to operate on interim facilities for a period of 90 days until WCTI is able to complete its permanent post-repack facilities.

WCTI is assigned to transition from Channel 12 to Channel 10 in Phase 10 of the repack. WCTI’s construction of its permanent facilities remains unfinished as a result of construction and crew delays related to severe weather. Due to heavy rain and severe thunderstorms the station’s helicopter installation of its permanent post-repack antenna has been delayed. Because the helicopter lift must be rescheduled, WCTI will be unable to complete the installation of its permanent antenna by the July 3, 2020 Phase 10 deadline. Therefore, WCTI plans to begin operating on its post-repack channel, Channel 10, using its interim antenna until the helicopter installation can be completed.

WCTI respectfully requests an STA to operate on its post-repack channel from interim facilities while construction is completed on its permanent facilities. This request will not impact the repack efforts of other stations because WCTI will still transition to its post-repack channel by the July 3, 2020 Phase 10 deadline. Furthermore, grant of the instant STA request would be in the public interest because it would allow WCTI to continue to serve its community during this critical time without disruption to the overall repack. WCTI is simultaneously requesting an extension of its current Construction Permit (LMS File No. 0000106300).