

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

WCTI Licensee, LLC, licensee of station WCTI-TV, New Bern, NC, FIN 18334 (“WCTI”), hereby requests extension of its current special temporary authority (“STA”)(LMS No. 0000116540), due to circumstances beyond its control, to continue 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 continue to operate on interim facilities for a period of 60 days, i.e., until **November 30, 2020**, by which time WCTI expects to have been able to complete its permanent post-repack facilities.

Due to tower crew and weather delays, WCTI was not able to fully complete construction of its permanent post-repack facilities by its construction permit deadline of October 1, 2020. However, WCTI has made significant progress in constructing its post-transition facilities. The tower modifications have been completed, the tower crew is currently on-site, and the antenna replacement is expected to be completed over the next several days. Barring unforeseen delays, WCTI expects to complete the project in November. A tolling request with respect to WCTI’s construction permit is also being filed with the Commission.

WCTI respectfully requests an STA to continue to operate on its post-repack channel from interim facilities while construction is completed on its permanent facilities. Due to an administrative oversight, WCTI failed to file an STA extension request prior to October 1, 2020. WCTI regrets the failure to timely file this extension request, but respectfully submits that the extension of the STA despite such brief delay would serve the public interest. This request will not impact the repack efforts of other stations because WCTI will continue to operate on its post-repack channel. 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.