

Explanatory Exhibit for CP Extension Request

NPG of Missouri, LLC (“Permittee”), holder of the construction permit for K18KK-D (LMS File No. 0000090527) (the “CP”), respectfully requests a six month extension of time to construct the facilities authorized by the CP, up to and including January 13, 2022. The Permittee is filing this extension request out of an abundance of caution, and pursuant to the Public Notice requiring the filing of such extension requests by March 15, 2021.¹

Specifically, the Permittee has been diligently pursuing construction of the facilities authorized by the CP, has obtained a transmitter that the Permittee is in the process of repurposing for the K18KK-D facility, and currently reasonably believes that it will be able to meet the existing July 13, 2021, construction deadline. However, the transmitter is an older Linear Industries model which requires various technical changes before it can be deployed for the K18KK-D facility.² Although the Permittee has verified that the transmitter was fully operational when it was last turned on approximately a year-and-a-half ago, the Permittee must retune both the transmitter and an accompanying filter to accommodate K18KK-D’s channel and must then transport the transmitter to the K18KK-D facilities site. The Permittee has been actively pursuing, and prior to the end of March 2021 expects to finalize, a contract with a third-party vendor with significant experience performing the types of modifications necessary to repurpose the transmitter and filters for K18KK-D’s digital operation. As an additional backup measure, the Permittee’s own in-house engineers (who themselves have significant experience working with and transitioning older transmitters from analog to digital operations) have also been familiarizing themselves with the processes required to repurpose the transmitter and filter. Accordingly, the Permittee currently reasonably anticipates that all work necessary to deploy the K18KK-D transmitter will be completed by late Spring or early Summer—i.e., in advance of the existing July 13, 2021, construction deadline.

However, to the extent any further, unforeseen technical modifications to the transmitter are needed, or the transmitter is somehow damaged in transport (given its somewhat advanced age and accompanying fragility), replacement parts are not readily available and would therefore need to

¹ *Media Bureau Reminds Low Power Television and Television Translator Stations of July 13, 2021 Digital Transition Date*, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 6977 (MB 2020); *see also Media Bureau Reminds Low Power Television and Television Translator Stations of July 13, 2021, Digital Transition Date*, Public Notice, DA 21-260 (rel. Mar. 4, 2021) (modifying filing deadline to March 15, 2021, pursuant to Rule Section 1.4).

² With respect to low power stations displaced as a result of the nationwide post-Auction repack transition, the Commission observed that re-use of existing equipment was expected where and when possible. *See, e.g., In re LPTV, TV Translator, & FM Broad. Station Reimbursement*, Report and Order, 34 FCC Rcd 1690, 1713 (2019) (“LPTV/translators should reuse their own equipment to the extent possible We do not believe that the cost for new equipment can be considered ‘reasonably incurred’ if the station already has a functional piece of equipment it can use rather than replace.”). In that regard, the Permittee’s plan to repurpose an older transmitter fits squarely within the expectations of the Commission, even though—and, perhaps, *a fortiori* because—K18KK-D doesn’t qualify for reimbursement funds.

be sourced and acquired from boutique third-party sources or private sellers. Although the Permittee does not currently believe that any such operational issues will arise or that such parts will need to be obtained, the Permittee is nonetheless filing this extension request “just in case” some such beyond-our-control circumstance happens to occur during the 4-month period between the March 15, 2021, extension request filing deadline and the existing July 13, 2021, construction deadline.³

The Permittee is part of a closely-held, family-owned long-time broadcast (and newspaper) company. As such, economic/financial prudence and judiciousness have been a hallmark of the company culture. For purposes of this digital facility, that has meant the company carefully tracked the Commission’s rules and opportunities for LPTV stations, and during the periods of uncertainty for LPTV stations leading up to and during the full-power and Class A post-Auction transition the Permittee was in a regulatory “wait and see” posture and appropriately hesitated to create premature, unsustainable “sunk costs” into the facility for fear of losing the facility as a result of interference issues. Obviously, that risk has now largely passed, and K18KK-D can be constructed as permitted via minor modification several years ago. And with the pandemic-affected year of 2020 in the rear-view mirror—a year which saw broadcast construction projects delayed across the country and supply chain issues manifest—the Permittee is now ready, willing, and able to move forward to completion of the project and submits this request out of an abundance of caution.

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³ Additionally, as a failsafe measure, the Permittee currently believes that it would be able to operate the digital facility at reduced power if absolutely necessary and therefore will be prepared to file a request for special temporary authority to do so in the event such a need arises.