

Reason for STA Request

Mayavision, Inc. (“Licensee” or “Mayavision”), licensee of KGLA-DT, Hammond, Louisiana (Facility ID No. 83945) (“KGLA”), respectfully requests an extension of the Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) File No. 0000109037, most recently extended April 7, 2021,¹ which allowed KGLA to commence operations on its post-auction Channel 35 with interim facilities while it completes construction of KGLA’s post-auction facilities. Specifically, Licensee requests this STA Extension in order to operate KGLA with auxiliary facilities authorized in its Auxiliary License (File No. 0000124654, granted 10/15/2020) with an ERP of 376 kW and with a RCAGL of 244 meters. If granted this STA extension to operate using the recently granted Auxiliary License KGLA will be able to better serve its community with an improved signal until the installation of the main transmission line and antenna are complete. Licensee is filing a Request for Tolling of Construction Permit concurrently with this STA Extension request.

Permitting KGLA to operate on its post-auction Channel 35 pursuant to STA is in the public interest because it will allow Licensee to continue serving KGLA’s community of license while it completes construction of KGLA’s post-auction facilities. Licensee believed that, given the COVID-19 pandemic, it was prudent for KGLA to move off its pre-auction Channel 42 and to commence operations on its post-auction Channel 35 before Licensee was entirely prevented by the pandemic from scheduling engineers to work on KGLA’s facilities. Since the last extension was requested in October, 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has continued and thus far, has shown little signs of improvement.

During 2020, local shelter in place orders originally prevented engineers from being able to work on the facilities. After those orders were lessened, the Hammond, Louisiana area was hit especially hard during the hurricane season. At one point, during just a six week period, southwest Louisiana was hit by two massive hurricanes, including the Category 5 Hurricane Laura. Due to the hurricanes and the pandemic, Mayavision’s progress was severely slowed down, and it had to contend with repairing hurricane damage in addition to already limited personnel resources due to the pandemic.

Additionally, Mayavision has suffered the tragic loss of its long-time engineer, Ernie Harvey, in January due to COVID. The loss of Mr. Harvey has also left Mayavision seeking additional help for its engineering needs. However, despite facing these ongoing difficulties from the pandemic, including shipping delays and limited personnel resources, Mayavision has made progress since the request of the most recent STA Extension. Specifically, demobilization on the post-auction facilities was just completed in early April.

Due to the hurricanes and the pandemic, Licensee expects it will be some time longer before work can resume as normal and it is able to complete construction. This STA extension will serve the public interest by allowing the station to continue operating until Mayavision can finish the construction of the main facilities. Therefore, Licensee respectfully requests this extension to the STA.

¹ See LMS File No. 0000124949.