

Renewal of License – TV Translator/LPTV Certifications, Discontinued Operations Narrative

K28PQ-D initiated operations in Saint Cloud, MN, Facility: 184640, when it filed a License to Cover application, FCC File Number: BLDLTL-20140306AIK, on 3/6/2014.

In addition to the periods of silence noted in the Adherence to Minimum Operating Schedule Narrative¹, the station went silent on 9/2/2018 and a Silent Special Temporary Authority (the “Silent STA”), FCC File Number: 0000059391, was filed 9/4/2018. The specific reason for the period of silence was that the station was undertaking efforts to construct its permanent broadcast facility pursuant to the granted Displacement application FCC File Number: 0000051606. The exhibit also stated the station, “was operating in a resource-constrained environment due to the 600 MHz Incentive Auction repacking process. Station owners, particularly LPTV station owners which were deemed lower priority, that were seeking to build new broadcast facilities had access to far fewer resources such as tower crews and equipment than they would have had otherwise, a factor that the Commission and the Media Bureau acknowledged.” The Silent STA was granted 9/4/2018.

The station filed an extension to the Silent STA, FCC File Number: 0000068209, on 3/1/2019 while it continued its efforts to construct its permanent displaced broadcast facility. The specific reason for the Silent STA extension was the Licensee, “added new team members to facilitate the planning, design and construction of new facilities and diligently prepared site summaries and sketches, whilst completing the engineering design process and evaluating its Internet options for content delivery.” Additionally, the station was in contact with transmitter manufacturers and collecting quotes from vendors to complete construction.

The station duly filed a Section 312(g) waiver request on 9/4/2019, FCC File Number: 0000068209. The exhibit stated the Licensee had, “been working diligently to resume operations by the Station’s 312(g) deadline of September 2. When the Station’s engineers learned that the antenna intended for the Station was going to be delayed, the licensee repurposed an antenna from a station that the licensee is no longer building. This antenna was scheduled to be installed on time; however, when the Station’s engineers arrived to install the antenna, they realized that more line was needed, due to the interim antenna being hung higher on the tower than the originally intended antenna. This extra line should be delivered and installed in the coming days, after which the Station will be operational.”

In the 3/23/2020 Section 312(g) waiver grant, Commission staff noted, “Consistent with the public interest and prior Bureau actions, we will provide section 312(g) relief to displaced LPTV and TV translator stations that were displaced by the Incentive Auction and pursued new displacement channels.”

The station resumed operations when it filed a License to Cover application on 11/13/2019, FCC File Number: 0000089168. The License to Cover was granted on 11/18/2019. Since that date, the station has been operating pursuant to authorized specifications.

¹ See attached exhibit included in the License Renewal application.