

AMENDED REQUEST FOR SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY (MULTICAST HOSTS)

Gray Television Licensee, LLC (“Gray”), licensee of digital full power television station WSAZ-TV, Huntington, WV (FID 36912) (“WSAZ”), hereby submits this amended request for special temporary authority to host WSAZ’s ATSC 1.0-formatted multicast channels on television stations other than WSAZ’s primary ATSC 1.0 simulcast host to allow WSAZ to serve over-the-air viewers in the Charleston-Huntington DMA. Specifically, Gray is requesting authorization to allow WSAZ’s non-primary programming streams (multicast streams) to be aired in an ATSC 1.0 format, with no ATSC 3.0 simulcast, as follows:

| Stream | Host Station |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 3.2 (MyNet/Me-TV) | WVAH-TV |
| 3.3 (Circle) | WVAH-TV |
| 3.4 (DABL) | WOWK-TV |
| 3.5 (True Crime Network) | WCHS-TV |

Gray requests that for purposes of enforcement and application of the Commission’s rules, WSAZ be treated as if it is airing the multicast streams over the facilities of the aforementioned stations and be the responsible party under the Act and Commission rules and regulations akin to the manner that the Commission treats ATSC 1.0 primary simulcast streams under the Next Gen TV rules.

On November 17, 2021, the FCC granted Gray’s application for WSAZ to voluntarily convert to the ATSC 3.0 transmission standard beginning on December 2, 2021.¹ Under the transition plan for the Charleston-Huntington DMA (in which WSAZ is located), WSAZ will host its own ATSC 3.0-formatted primary channel along with the ATSC 3.0-formatted primary channels of WQCW, WOWK-TV, WVAH-TV, and WCHS-TV. WSAZ’s ATSC 1.0-formatted primary channel will be hosted by WQCW. WSAZ also transmits four ATSC 1.0-formatted multicast channels. Because of ATSC 1.0 capacity limitations, WQCW does not have sufficient bandwidth capacity to host WSAZ’s multicast channels in ATSC 1.0, those channels would be hosted as follows: MyNet/MeTV and Circle (WVAH-TV), DABL (WOWK-TV), and True Crime Network (WCHS-TV). Gray will indemnify the licensee of the host stations with respect to the content of the hosted multicast channels and will be responsible for the multicast channels’ compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. To avoid viewer confusion, each of WSAZ’s current multicast channels would retain its existing PSIP major/minor channel numbers.

Due to ATSC 3.0 capacity and other constraints attendant with the multi-station and multi-market coordination needed for successful ATSC 3.0 deployment across the country, it is not feasible for WSAZ to simulcast an ATSC 3.0 version of its multicast streams without unduly minimizing, if not largely eliminating, the benefits to the public and the participating stations of transitioning to ATSC 3.0. Simulcasting those streams in ATSC 3.0 would reduce capacity available to NextGen stations for offering consumers the improved services that ATSC 3.0 enables. The types of services and improvements that would be precluded would include enhanced video featuring High Dynamic Range, Wide Color Gamut and High Frame Rate, immersive and multiple audio channels using Dolby AC-4, Advanced Emergency Alerting and Information functions as part of a broadcast receiver application, and non-real time interactive data delivery. Each of these requires a portion of the ATSC 3.0 capacity that would be unavailable were Gray

¹ See File No, 0000167829 (the “WSAZ Next Gen App”).

to carry multicast program streams as the ATSC 3.0 host for stations in the Charleston-Huntington market. Furthermore, significant additional engineering work and more equipment would be required to simulcast WSAZ's multicast streams in ATSC 3.0 and ATSC 1.0 formats. Obtaining, installing, and testing that equipment would, at minimum, delay rollout of ATSC 3.0 in the Charleston-Huntington market.

The proposed multicast arrangements will serve the public interest by enabling nearly all current over-the-air viewers to continue to have access to WSAZ's multicast streams. The service contours of the respective ATSC 1.0 hosts cover a majority of WSAZ's current service area population:

| Stream | Host Station | Service Area Coverage |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 3.2 (MyNet/Me-TV) | WVAH-TV | 93% |
| 3.3 (Circle) | WVAH-TV | 93% |
| 3.4 (DABL) | WOWK-TV | 100% |
| 3.5 (True Crime Network) | WCHS-TV | 93% |

See attached engineering exhibit.

Absent the arrangement with these stations, all over-the-air viewers would lose access to WSAZ's multicast streams. Additionally, the arrangements will preserve access to those WSAZ multicast streams for viewers who are receiving them via MVPDs. Gray has provided the requisite notice to MVPDs regarding relocation of WSAZ's primary ATSC 1.0 stream and its non-primary multicast streams. Gray will work with all impacted MVPDs to ensure that they continue to receive a good quality signal of the non-primary multicast streams, whether that be over-the-air or via alternate delivery methods. WSAZ is also airing public service announcements to inform viewers of its upcoming transition and of the need for viewers to rescan their televisions after the transition date in order to maintain over-the-air access to WSAZ's program streams in the current format.²

In its November 5, 2021 Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, the Commission recognized that its "existing rules do not address the licensing of multicast streams" but that "a Next Gen TV broadcaster that has converted or is seeking to convert its facility to 3.0 can seek special temporary authority (STA) to air 1.0 multicast streams on a host station."³ As the Commission further explained, "these STAs permit a guest multicast stream to be treated as if it originated from the Next Gen TV broadcaster's facility, as opposed to the host station's facility, for purposes of the Commission's rules and the Communications Act."⁴

Consistent with the FCC's proposal in the Second FNPRM, Gray's use of multiple ATSC 1.0 hosts will allow it to maintain existing service to viewers without burdening any party. Gray acknowledges that the use of multiple ATSC 1.0 hosts does not create any new carriage rights for its multicast streams. Gray seeks the Commission's recognition of its proposed multi-host arrangements simply to provide needed clarity: (1) that the hosting arrangements do not implicate the broadcast ownership rules, and (2) that

² See 47 C.F.R. § 73.3801(g).

³ *Authorizing Permissive Use of the "Next Generation" Broadcast Television Standard*. Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, GN Dkt. No. 16-142, FCC 21-116, ¶ 6 (rel. Nov. 5, 2021) (the "Second FNPRM").

⁴ *Id.*

WSAZ, as the originator of each multicast stream at issue, is “responsible for regulatory compliance regarding the multicast stream being aired on a host station.”⁵

Finally, Gray notes that WSAZ fulfills all of its children’s programming requirements by airing core E/I programming on WSAZ’s primary stream. WSAZ does not, and does not intend to, rely on any programming broadcast on its multicast streams for compliance with the Commission’s children’s programming requirements. As such, neither WSAZ’s compliance with the Commission’s Children’s Television Programming requirements nor viewers’ access to the station’s required core programming will be affected by the relocation of WSAZ’s multicast signals as proposed herein.

For the reasons set forth above, the Commission should grant forthwith Gray’s request for Special Temporary Authority, to the extent required, to broadcast its ATSC 1.0-formatted multicast channels via the facilities of WVAH-TV, WOWK-TV, and WCHS-TV after WSAZ converts its broadcast transmission to the Next Gen Television standard.

⁵ *Id.* ¶ 11.

Engineering Statement

WSAZ-TV Huntington, WV Non-Primary Multicast Stream Coverage Comparison prepared for **Gray Television Licensee, LLC**

This statement, prepared on behalf of *Gray Television Licensee, LLC*, provides a comparison of noise limited coverage contour (“NLSC”) coverage corresponding to the non-primary multicast streams of digital television station WSAZ-TV, Facility ID 36912, Huntington, WV. WSAZ-TV has recently been authorized to convert its existing broadcast facility to ATSC 3.0 transmission (file#0000167829). The WSAZ-TV primary programming stream will be carried in ATSC 1.0 format by station WQCW (Ch. 15, Fac ID 65130, Portsmouth OH). The underlying license modification application demonstrated that 100.0 percent of WSAZ-TV’s NLSC population will be within that of WQCW. This statement supports a request for Special Temporary Authority to allow WSAZ-TV’s non-primary multicast streams to be aired in ATSC 1.0 format by certain other television stations.

Gray proposes that WSAZ-TV’s non-primary multicast streams be carried in ATSC 1.0 format by a combination of several other participating stations in the same market. These streams will be hosted as follows.

| Non-Primary Multicast Stream | Host Station |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 3.2 (MyNet/Me-TV) | WVAH-TV Ch. 24 Fac ID 417 Charleston WV |
| 3.3 (Circle) | WVAH-TV Ch. 24 Fac ID 417 Charleston WV |
| 3.4 (DABL) | WOWK-TV Ch. 10 Fac ID 23342 Huntington WV |
| 3.5 (True Crime Network) | WCHS-TV Ch. 29 Fac ID 71280 Charleston WV |

Coverage contour comparison maps are attached that depict the NLSC of WSAZ-TV and the various ATSC 1.0 host stations. Population counts of each station are provided along with the corresponding percentage of NLSC population match and loss.

The WSAZ-TV non-primary multicast streams associated with virtual channel numbers 3.2 (MyNet/Me-TV) and 3.3 (Circle) are to be carried in ATSC 1.0 on WVAH-TV. An NLSC comparison of WSAZ-TV and WVAH-TV is provided in Figure 1, showing substantial overlap. The population detail is provided below, showing that 93.0 percent of the population within WSAZ-TV's NLSC is within that of WVAH-TV, representing a 7.0 percent loss.

**WSAZ-TV and WVAH-TV Non-Primary Multicast Stream Comparison
 (Figure 1)**

| Non-Primary Multicast Comparison Noise Limited Service Contour | Population (2020 census) |
|---|-----------------------------|
| WSAZ-TV Ch. 22 Total: (Proposed ATSC 3.0) | 1,115,023 |
| WVAH-TV Ch. 24 Total: (ATSC 1.0 Multicast Host) | 1,252,360 |
| Common Area Population: | 1,036,627 |
| Match of WSAZ-TV Total: | 93.0% |
| WSAZ-TV Multicast Loss: | 7.0% |

The WSAZ-TV non-primary multicast stream associated with virtual channel number 3.4 (DABL) is to be carried in ATSC 1.0 on WOWK-TV. An NLSC comparison of WSAZ-TV and WOWK-TV is provided in Figure 2, showing that WOWK's NLSC completely encompasses that of WSAZ-TV. Therefore, a 100.0 percent population match is achieved and there will be no loss.

**WSAZ-TV and WOWK-TV Non-Primary Multicast Stream Comparison
 (Figure 2)**

| Non-Primary Multicast Comparison Noise Limited Service Contour | Population (2020 census) |
|---|-----------------------------|
| WSAZ-TV Ch. 22 Total: (Proposed ATSC 3.0) | 1,115,023 |
| WOWK-TV Ch. 10 Total: (ATSC 1.0 Multicast Host) | 1,262,245 |
| Common Area Population: | 1,115,023 |
| Match of WSAZ-TV Total: | 100.0% |
| WSAZ-TV Multicast Loss: | 0.0% |

Finally, the WSAZ-TV non-primary multicast stream associated with virtual channel number 3.5 (True Crime Network) is to be carried in ATSC 1.0 on WCHS-TV. An NLSC comparison of WSAZ-TV and WCHS-TV is provided in Figure 3, showing substantial overlap. The population detail is provided below, showing that 93.0 percent of the population within WSAZ-TV's NLSC is within that of WCHS-TV, representing a 7.0 percent loss.¹

**WSAZ-TV and WCHS-TV Non-Primary Multicast Stream Comparison
(Figure 3)**

| Non-Primary Multicast Comparison Noise Limited Service Contour | | Population (2020 census) |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| WSAZ-TV Ch. 22 Total: (Proposed ATSC 3.0) | | 1,115,023 |
| WCHS-TV Ch. 29 Total: (ATSC 1.0 Multicast Host) | | 1,252,360 |
| Common Area Population: | | 1,036,627 |
| Match of WSAZ-TV Total: | | 93.0% |
| WSAZ-TV Multicast Loss: | | 7.0% |

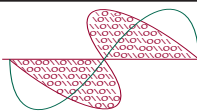
List of Attachments

- Figure 1 WSAZ-TV with ATSC 1.0 Host Station WVAH-TV
Figure 2 WSAZ-TV with ATSC 1.0 Host Station WOWK-TV
Figure 3 WSAZ-TV with ATSC 1.0 Host Station WCHS-TV

Chesapeake RF Consultants, LLC

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¹The contours and population counts for WVAH-TV (Figure 1) and WCHS-TV (Figure 3) are identical because those stations utilize a shared antenna at identical power levels.

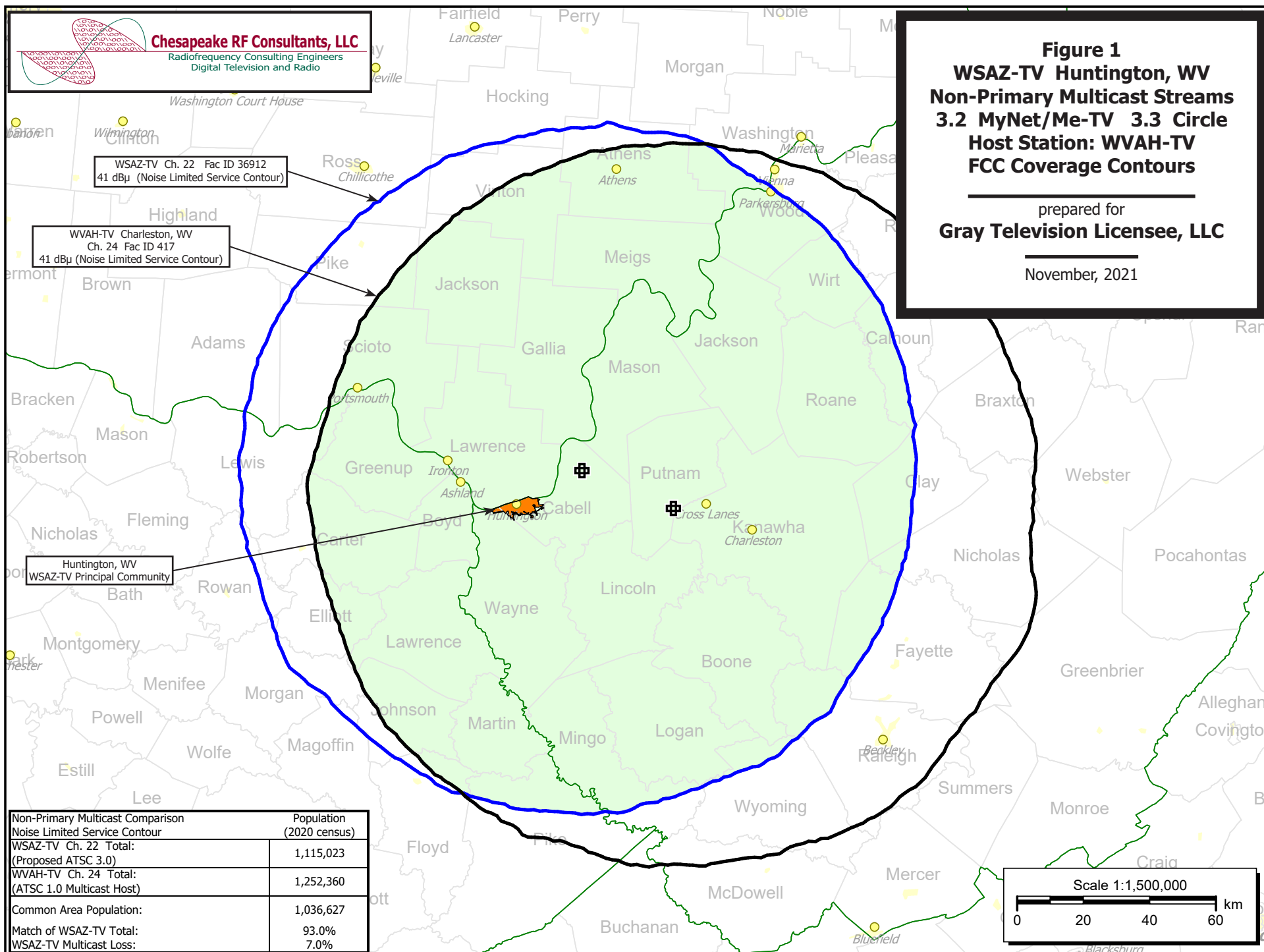


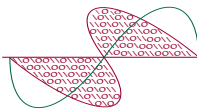
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Figure 1
WSAZ-TV Huntington, WV
Non-Primary Multicast Streams
3.2 MyNet/Me-TV 3.3 Circle
Host Station: WVAH-TV
FCC Coverage Contours

prepared for
Gray Television Licensee, LLC

November, 2021



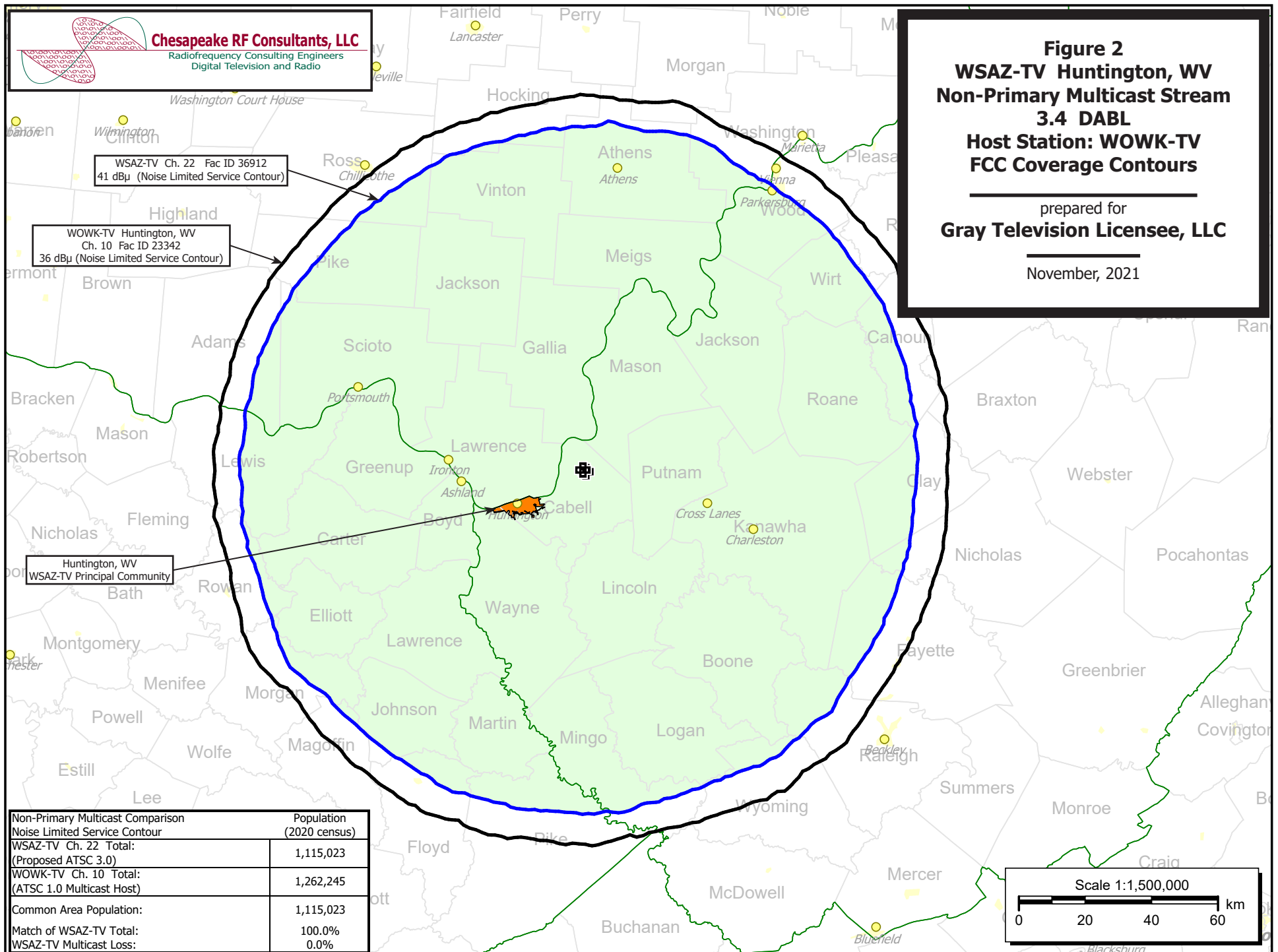


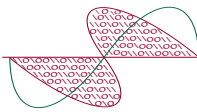
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Figure 2
WSAZ-TV Huntington, WV
Non-Primary Multicast Stream
3.4 DABL
Host Station: WOWK-TV
FCC Coverage Contours

prepared for
Gray Television Licensee, LLC

November, 2021



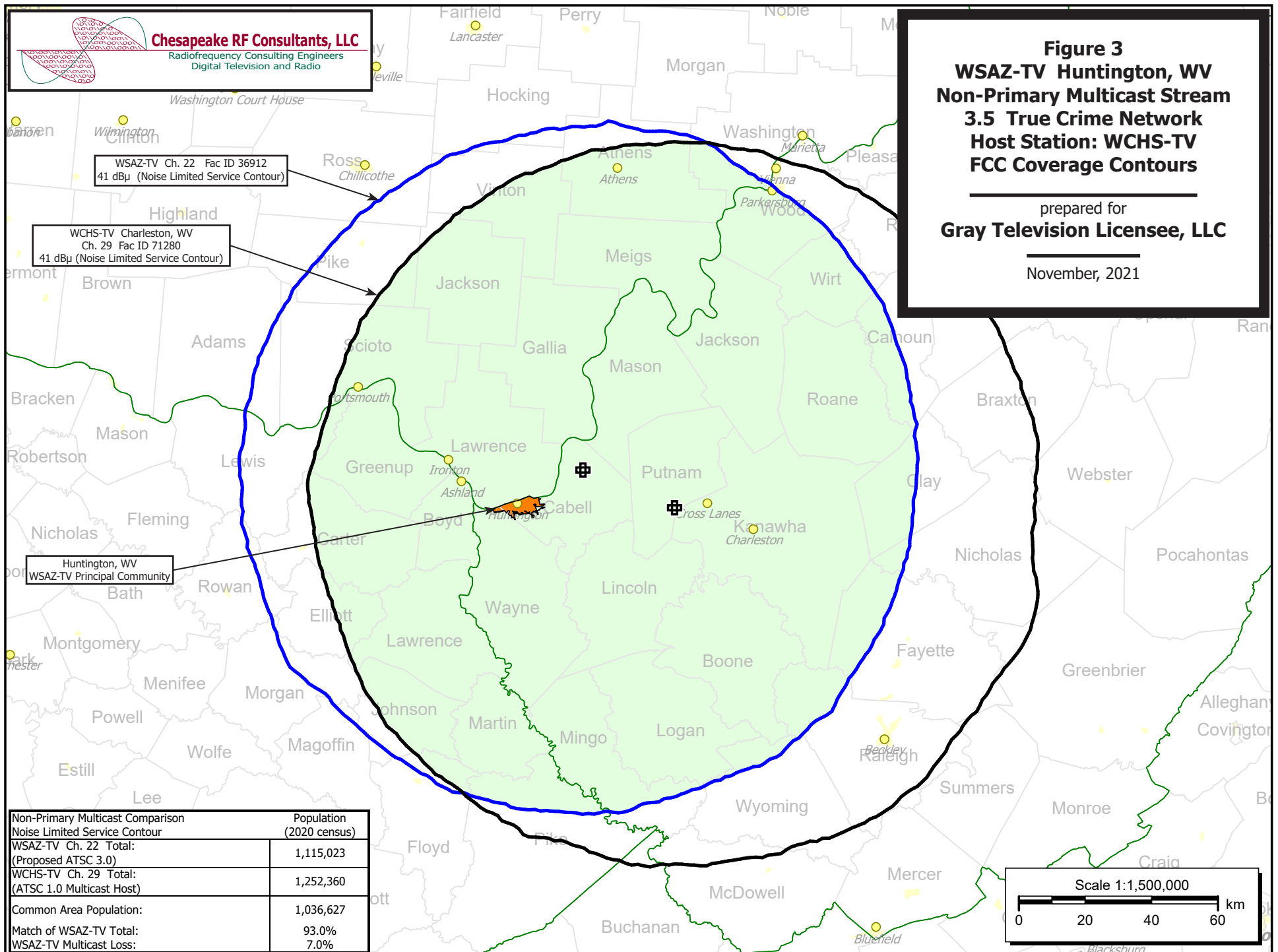


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Figure 3
WSAZ-TV Huntington, WV
Non-Primary Multicast Stream
3.5 True Crime Network
Host Station: WCHS-TV
FCC Coverage Contours

prepared for
Gray Television Licensee, LLC

November, 2021



| Non-Primary Multicast Comparison | | Population |
|----------------------------------|--|---------------|
| Noise Limited Service Contour | | (2020 census) |
| WSAZ-TV Ch. 22 Total: | | 1,115,023 |
| (Proposed ATSC 3.0) | | |
| WCHS-TV Ch. 29 Total: | | 1,252,360 |
| (ATSC 1.0 Multicast Host) | | |
| Common Area Population: | | 1,036,627 |
| Match of WSAZ-TV Total: | | 93.0% |
| WSAZ-TV Multicast Loss: | | 7.0% |