

## **Renewal of License Amendment – Adherence to Minimum Operating Schedule Narrative**

DTV America Corporation initiated operations on KFKZ-LD, Cedar Falls, IA, Facility: 188737, when it filed a License to Cover application, FCC File Number: 0000001795, on 6/12/2015.

The station went silent on 12/5/2015 and filed a Silent Special Temporary Authority (“Silent STA”) request, FCC File Number: 0000007508, on 1/4/2016. The reason for the period of silence was outlined in the Media Bureau’s *DTV America Corporation et al.*, Consent Decree, 32 FCC Rcd 9129 (MB rel. Oct. 31, 2017) (“Consent Decree”).

The station extended the Silent STA on 6/30/2016, FCC File Number: 0000011479. The extension was requested while the process of constructing facilities was ongoing.

The station resumed operations on 11/6/2016 and filed a Resumption of Operations, FCC File Number: 0000016738, on 11/7/2016.

The station went silent on 11/6/2016 and filed a Silent STA request, FCC File Number: 0000016951, on 11/9/2016. The reason for the period of silence was outlined in the Consent Decree.

The station extended the Silent STA on 5/8/2017, FCC File Number: 0000024478. The extension was requested while the process of constructing facilities was ongoing.

The station resumed operations on 9/6/2017 and filed a Resumption of Operations, FCC File Number: 0000029708, on 9/6/2017.

The station went silent on 9/6/2017 and filed a Silent STA request, FCC File Number: 0000029796, on 9/11/2017. The reason for the period of silence was outlined in the Consent Decree.

The station extended the Silent STA on 3/5/2018, FCC File Number: 0000047868. The reason for the period of silence was due to the transfer of control of DTV America to HC2 Broadcasting Inc. (“HC2”), and the subsequent complications of transitioning to new leadership. The transaction was consummated on November 9, 2017 and involved more than 400 LPTV stations.<sup>1</sup> HC2 was in the process of surveying its resources and developing construction and operational plans. Additionally, HC2, as the new majority owner of DTV America, 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

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<sup>1</sup> The Consent Decree noted that “HC2 Broadcasting is unaffiliated with the Licensees, though HC2 Broadcasting’s parent company holds a passive, non-controlling interest in DTV America Corporation through an affiliated entity.”

fewer resources such as tower crews and equipment than they would have had otherwise, a factor that the Commission and the Media Bureau acknowledged.<sup>2</sup>

HC2 requested an extension of the Silent STA to avoid the inefficiency and waste associated with building a second, duplicative broadcast facility that could only be used for a short period of time given the displaced status of the station. Specifically, the station was displaced as part of the repacking process and would have needed to build a separate facility to operate on a new channel.<sup>3</sup> Thus, if required to resume transmission prior to the STA's expiration date, DTV America would have been forced to build a first facility to operate on the station's current channel and then, soon after, a second facility to operate on the station's new channel.

The station resumed operations on 9/2/2018 and filed a Resumption of Operations, FCC File Number: 0000059371, on 9/4/2018.

The station went silent on 9/2/2018 and filed a Silent STA request, FCC File Number: 0000059388, on 9/4/2018. The reason for the period of silence was outlined in the Consent Decree.

The station extended the Silent STA on 3/1/2019, FCC File Number: 0000068204, as it worked towards continuing to build the facility.

The station filed a License to Cover application, FCC File Number: 0000069608, on 4/4/2019.

The station went silent on 8/5/2019 and filed a Silent STA request, FCC File Number: 0000080777, on 8/30/2019. The reason for the period of silence was outlined in the Consent Decree.

The station resumed operations on 11/26/2019 and filed a Resumption of Operations, FCC File Number: 0000091664, on 11/27/2019.

The station went silent on 12/12/2019 and filed a Silent STA request, FCC File Number: 0000093550, on 12/17/2019. The reason for the period of silence to repair the transmission line.

The station resumed operations on 3/24/2020 and filed a Resumption of Operations, FCC File Number: 0000109369, on 3/26/2020. Since that date, the station has been operating pursuant to its authorized specifications.

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<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., *Incentive Auction Closing and Channel Reassignment Public Notice et al.*, Public Notice, 32 FCC Rcd 2786 (MB 2017) ("Channel Reassignment PN"); *Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions*, Report and Order, 29 FCC Rcd 6597 ¶ 3 (2014).

<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., *Channel Reassignment PN*.