

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

KQML-LD initiated operations in Kansas City, MO, Facility: 184191, when it filed a License to Cover application, FCC File Number: 0000007013, on 12/1/2015.

In addition to the periods of silence noted in the Adherence to Minimum Operating Schedule Narrative,¹ the station went silent on 11/17/2018 and a Silent Special Temporary Authority request (“Silent STA”), FCC File Number: 0000063636, was filed on 11/19/2018 and granted 11/19/2018. The 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: 0000051648. Additionally, DTV America Corporation 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.²

The station filed an extension to the Silent STA, FCC File Number: 0000072654, on 5/13/2019. The station filed an engineering STA on 7/15/2019, FCC File Number: 0000078027, which was granted on 7/29/2019; however, a resumption notice was not filed. The Licensee added new team members to facilitate the planning, design and construction of its Displacement facilities and diligently prepared site summaries and sketches, whilst completing the engineering design process and evaluating its Internet options for content delivery. The station was in contact with transmitter manufacturers and collecting quotes from vendors to complete construction.

Out of an abundance of caution, the station filed a Section 312(g) waiver request on 11/13/2019 as an amendment to the pending Silent STA request, FCC File Number: 0000072654, which was granted by letter decision on 3/23/2020.³ In the 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 on 2/2/2020 pursuant to an Engineering STA, File No. 0000108494, as amended on 9/21/2020. The station went silent on 9/15/2020 and filed a Silent STA request, FCC File Number: 0000122454, on 9/25/2020. The station was silent while a rigging crew completed work on the tower.

¹ See attached exhibit included in the License Renewal application.

² 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).

³ Letter from Barbara A. Kreisman, Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau to Renee Ilhardt, DTV America Corporation (Mar. 23, 2020) (unpublished letter decision).

The station resumed operations upon filing a License to Cover application, FCC File Number: 0000124480, on 10/13/2020, and withdrew the Silent STA request. The Engineering STA was dismissed as moot on 10/21/2020. The License to Cover application was granted on 1/5/2021. Since that date, the station has been operating pursuant to its authorized specifications.