

Tribune Media Company
KIAH(TV), Houston, Texas
(Fac. ID 23394)

**Request for Special Temporary
Authority**

Tribune Media Company (“Licensee”), licensee of KIAH(TV), Houston, Texas, RF Channel 34 (Fac. ID 23394) (“KIAH”), hereby requests an extension of Special Temporary Authority (*see* File No. 0000166996) in connection with KIAH’s transition to the ATSC 3.0 broadcast transmission standard authorization to broadcast KIAH’s non-primary programming streams (“multicast streams”) in ATSC 1.0 format as follows:

(a) 39.2 Antenna TV and 39.4 TBD programming to KHOU(TV), Houston, Texas (Fac. ID 34529), RF Channel 11, licensed to KHOU-TV, Inc;

(b) 39.3 Comet TV programming to KUHT(TV), Houston, Texas (Fac. ID 69269), RF Channel 8, licensed to University of Houston System; and

(c) 39.5 Court TV programming to KTMD(TV), Galveston, Texas (Fac. ID 64984), RF Channel 22, licensed to NBC Telemundo License LLC.

Licensee requests that for purposes of enforcement and application of its rules, KIAH be treated as if it is airing the multicast streams over KIAH 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.

As indicated in Licensee’s KIAH’s Form 2100 application, Licensee has authority (1) to broadcast ATSC 3.0 operations from the current KIAH facilities and (2) simulcast the KIAH primary stream (affiliated with CW) in ATSC 1.0 format on KPRC-TV, Houston, Texas (Fac. ID 53117), RF Channel 35, licensed to Graham Media Group, Houston, Inc. In return, KIAH will be a 3.0 “lighthouse” for the Houston market, hosting and broadcasting the primary programming streams of the following stations in ATSC 3.0 format: KPRC-TV (NBC); KHOU(TV) (CBS); KTMD(TV)(Telemundo); and KUHT(TV)(PBS).

To minimize the loss of over-the-air programming to its current ATSC 1.0 viewers resulting from the station’s transition to ATSC 3.0, Licensee proposes to broadcast its multicast streams on the stations referenced above pursuant to hosting agreements.

As noted in the STA, because of ATSC 1.0 capacity constraints KIAH is not able to air its multicast streams on KPRC-TV, its primary ATSC 1.0 simulcast host. Furthermore, due to ATSC 3.0 capacity and other constraints attendant with the multi-station and multi-market coordination needed for a successful ATSC 3.0 deployment across the country, it is not feasible for Licensee to simulcast KIAH’s multicast streams in an ATSC 3.0 format without unduly minimizing, if not largely eliminating, the benefits to the public and the participating stations of

transitioning to ATSC 3.0. Granting this extension would ensure that all over-the-air viewers would continue to receive access to the ATSC 1.0 signals of KIAH's multicast streams. Licensee reiterates as well that it will remain responsible for these streams' compliance with the Communications Act and the Commission's rules and regulations.

Although Licensee has agreed to indemnify the respective licensees of KHOU(TV), KUHT(TV) and KTMD(TV) from and against all liabilities or claims resulting from or arising out of the programming and advertising broadcast on Licensee's program streams using the facilities of KHOU(TV), KUHT(TV) and KTMD(TV) (as applicable), Licensee is requesting the extension of this STA to make clear that Licensee will remain responsible for the Antenna TV, Comet TV, TBD and Court TV streams' compliance with the Communications Act and the Commission's rules and regulations.

An extension of this STA will serve the public interest as it will advance the Commission's ATSC 3.0 policy goals while preserving KIAH's ability to air each of its programming streams in the ATSC 1.0 format to ensure that almost all of KIAH's current viewers can continue to receive the programming currently available to them. It will also make clear that KIAH is an authorized user of a portion of the channels for KHOU(TV), KUHT(TV) and KTMD(TV) and is the party responsible for ensuring compliance with the Communications Act and the Commission's rules and regulations akin to the manner that the Commission treats ATSC 1.0 primary simulcast streams under the Next Gen TV rules.¹

¹ Pursuant to the Media Bureau's request that all ATSC 3.0 licensees formally seek modification or clarification of the of the FCC ATSC rules prior to seeking an extension, Licensee notes and supports the Petition for Declaratory Ruling and Petition for Rulemaking filed by the National Association of Broadcasters on November 9, 2020 in GN Docket No. 16-142.