

Certification Regarding Compliance with Core Programming Processing Guidelines

The station aired an average of at least three hours per week of regularly scheduled educational/informational (“E/I”) programming during the license term. However, ten episodes of E/I programming that aired on the station’s primary stream during the second quarter of 2018 were preempted and rescheduled during time slots that were not the programs’ “second home” and/or did not include timely notice to the public of the rescheduled date and time. As a result, these programs could not count toward the station’s “Core Programming” hours, and the station cannot certify that it fully satisfied the Core Programming guidelines. The station averaged 2.6 hours of Core Programming per week during the second quarter of 2018 (2.9 hours of Core Programming per week as averaged over six months). Applicant notes, however, that all but two of the preempted and rescheduled episodes would have counted as Core Programming under the Commission’s current processing guidelines—they were rescheduled within 24-48 hours of the preemption, aired between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., and included timely notice to the public of the rescheduled date and time—and therefore the station would have satisfied the three hours of Core Programming per week minimum, as averaged over six months, under the processing guidelines in place today.

The station is committed to serving the educational and informational needs of children. During the second quarter of 2018, the station aired more than the required three hours of weekly Core Programming per stream on its two multicast streams, which together aired an average of 7.5 hours of Core Programming per week, and during several quarters over the preceding license term the station aired more than the required three hours of weekly Core Programming per stream on its primary and multicast streams. Additionally, as noted in the station’s Children’s Television Programming Report for the second quarter of 2018, the station partnered with the local Ronald McDonald Charities House and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and aired local public service announcements and televised a local telethon in support of these children’s charities. The station also aired a number of public service announcements directed toward children addressing bullying, homework, hunger prevention, school violence prevention. Additionally, station personnel visited local schools to discuss weather science and led station tours for local students of all ages.