Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authority

Independence Television Company ("Block"), licensee of WBKI, Salem, Indiana, hereby requests extension of its Special Temporary Authority ("STA") to allow its ATSC 1.0 multicast programming streams to continue to be hosted on other stations in the Louisville, Kentucky market. Block certifies that the channel plan in the market has not changed since the original STA request was granted and Block further certifies that it will continue to abide by all conditions and commitments made in the underlying grant.

WBKI currently serves as an ATSC 3.0 lighthouse station. WBKI has transitioned its primary ATSC 1.0 CW network programming to WAVE, owned by Gray Television Licensee, LLC. Additionally, to ensure no loss of over-the-air programming to the public, Block transitioned WBKI's five secondary/multicast program streams to three other stations in the market. Specifically, Block has moved three of WBKI's ATSC 1.0 subchannels – 58.3 My Network, 58.5 True Real and 58.6 Defy – to WBKI's sister station, co-owned WDRB. The fourth WBKI ATSC 1.0 subchannel – 58.2 Cozi – has also moved to Gray's WAVE. The fifth subchannel, 58.4 Movies!, was moved to WLKY which is owned by Hearst Properties, Inc. Block notes that while the channel plan has not changed since the original STA request was filed and granted, the virtual subchannels on the original STA request were accidently switched for My Network and Cozi – My Network is on 58.3 and Cozi is on 58.2 as listed above.

The hosting arrangements with WDRB, WAVE and WLKY serve the public interest by enabling over-the-air viewers to continue to have access to WBKI's multicast streams. Absent the arrangements with WDRB, WAVE and WLKY, over-the-air viewers would lose access to WBKI's multicast streams. Additionally, the arrangement preserves access to those WBKI multicast streams for viewers who are receiving them via MVPDs. Block has and will continue to coordinate with the MVPDs that carry the WBKI multicast streams to ensure they continue to receive a good quality signal, whether that be over the air or via an alternative delivery method (for example, a direct fiber feed).

Block respectfully requests grant of this extension of STA request to broadcast the WBKI ATSC 1.0 multicast streams on host stations as described above. Grant of this STA extension will serve the public interest, as it will advance the Commission's ATSC 3.0 policy goals while preserving WBKI's ability to air each of its programming streams in the ATSC 1.0 format.