

Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authority

Sinclair Seattle Licensee, LLC (“Licensee”), licensee of KUNS-TV, Bellevue, WA (Facility ID 4624), hereby requests an extension of the Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) that was granted on December 8, 2020 (and was most recently extended on November 23, 2022) in connection with KUNS-TV’s launch of ATSC 3.0 broadcast service. *See* File Nos. 0000126111 and 0000202383. On December 15, 2020, Licensee commenced ATSC 3.0 operations from KUNS-TV’s facility, which serves as the ATSC 3.0 host for stations in the Seattle, WA market, and began simulcasting its primary stream in ATSC 1.0 format on commonly-owned KOMO-TV, Seattle, WA (Facility ID 21656). *See* File No. 0000126240. Additionally, Licensee began airing its *TBD* and *Stadium* multicast streams in ATSC 1.0 format from the facilities of KIRO-TV, Seattle, WA (Facility ID 66781) pursuant to a written hosting agreement with Cox Media Group, Inc. This request seeks an extension of STA to the extent necessary to allow KUNS-TV to continue the multicast hosting arrangement for the broadcast of these multicast streams from KIRO-TV’s facility in ATSC 1.0 format.

As explained in Licensee’s original request for STA, KUNS-TV is not able to air its multicast streams on KOMO-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 KUNS-TV’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. Absent an extension of STA authorizing KUNS-TV to air its multicast streams using the facilities of KIRO-TV, all over-the-air viewers would lose access to the ATSC 1.0 signal of KUNS-TV’s multicast streams. Although Licensee has agreed to indemnify Cox Media Group, Inc. 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 KIRO-TV, Licensee is requesting extension of the STA to make clear that Licensee will remain responsible for the TBD and Stadium streams’ compliance with the Communications Act and the Commission’s rules and regulations.

As such, Licensee respectfully requests an extension of the STA. Grant of this STA extension would serve the public interest because it would advance the Commission’s ATSC 3.0 policy goals while preserving KUNS-TV’s ability to air each of its programming streams in ATSC 1.0 and ensure access to the programming currently received for most over-the-air viewers. It will also continue to make clear that KUNS-TV is an authorized user of a portion of KIRO-TV’s channel and is the party responsible for ensuring compliance with the Communications Act and the Commission’s rules and regulations.