

Extraordinary Circumstances Requiring STA to Remain Silent

KWCM-TV was forced to go silent when a construction crew inadvertently cut the power at the transmitter site and the fiber optics lines which connected the KWCM-TV studio to the transmitter. While the power was restored quickly, the fiber optics line was quite old and could not be repaired. The station has now been able to replace that fiber as well, but issues with the antiquated equipment that passes the KWCM-TV signal from the new fiber to the recently replaced transmitter remain. The KWCM-TV licensee is in the process of replacing that equipment as quickly as possible, but with multiple equipment vendors involved and supply chain issues for each, it is unclear whether the restoration to service can occur within 30 days of the date on which the station went silent. Accordingly, KWCM-TV is seeking authority to remain silent until the link between the station's studio and its transmitter can be restored.