

WYSJ-CD, YORKTOWN, VA (FACILITY ID 35134)
WJHJ-LD, NEWPORT NEWS, ETC., VA (FACILITY ID 35137)

Request for Extension of Silent STA

WVEC Television, LLC (“Licensee”), licensee of WYSJ-CD and WJHJ-LD (the “Stations”), hereby requests continued authority for the Stations to remain silent for up to an additional six months while Licensee works to coordinate the Stations’ return to service with the anticipated modification of the Stations’ facilities and those of co-owned station WVEC, Hampton, Virginia.

As explained in Licensee’s initial Requests for Silent STA,¹ Licensee consummated its acquisition of the Stations on March 21, 2023.² Because Licensee’s acquisition of the Stations did not include acquisition of the prior licensee’s programming contracts for the Stations, the Stations went temporarily silent upon consummation of the transaction to allow Licensee to plan for the Stations’ new operations. Licensee acquired the Stations as part of its broader effort to improve local viewers’ over-the-air reception of WVEC by moving WVEC from Channel 11 to Channel 35.³ The Commission has approved WVEC’s channel change petition, which requires relocating WYSJ-CD to be co-located with WVEC in order to eliminate otherwise prohibited interference.⁴ Licensee has received construction permits to relocate WYSJ-CD⁵ and to build out WVEC’s Channel 35 facility.⁶ In addition, because WJHJ-LD operates on adjacent Channel 34, Licensee will need to either obtain a construction permit to relocate WJHJ-LD or file a displacement application for a new channel in order for WJHJ-LD to continue long-term operation after WVEC begins service on Channel 35.

Licensee is actively in the process of planning the relocation of WYSJ-CD and WJHJ-LD to the WVEC tower site in coordination with construction of the new WVEC transmission systems. To date, Licensee has completed appurtenance mapping and inventory of the existing transmitter facilities, tower, and RF systems on-site. Additionally, Licensee has determined antenna selection for the new facilities, transmitter and RF systems specifications, and completed an initial plan for future appurtenance locations. This planning will allow Licensee to proceed with the next steps of structural analysis and finalization of a full construction plan. Licensee currently anticipates beginning construction at the site in early 2024.

Accordingly, Licensee requests authority for the Stations to remain temporarily silent while Licensee works to restore the Stations to long-term service.

¹ See File Nos. 0000214058 and 0000214059.

² See File Nos. 0000212841 and 0000212842.

³ See *Television Broadcasting Services, Hampton, Virginia*, Final Rule, 88 Fed. Reg. 18072 (March 27, 2023).

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ File No. 0000188559.

⁶ File No. 0000214052.