

Hosting Arrangements Exhibit

Portland (WPFO-TV) Licensee, Inc. (“Licensee”), licensee of WPFO(TV), Waterville, ME (Facility ID 84088; RF Channel 17), is filing this application to (1) commence ATSC 3.0 operations from WPFO(TV)’s current facility and (2) identify host station facilities that will be used to air WPFO(TV)’s programming in ATSC 1.0 format.

Primary Stream Simulcast

As indicated in the Form 2100 application, Licensee proposes to simulcast WPFO(TV)’s primary stream (currently affiliated with Fox) in ATSC 1.0 format on WGME-TV, Portland, ME (Facility ID 25683; RF Channel 15), pursuant to a written hosting agreement with WGME Licensee, LLC. WGME-TV is licensed to the same DMA as WPFO(TV) and its service contour completely covers WPFO(TV)’s community of license. *See* Primary Stream Engineering Exhibit. WGME-TV’s service contour covers 100% of WPFO(TV)’s current service area population. *Id.*

Non-Simulcast Multicasts

To minimize any loss of over-the-air programming available to ATSC 1.0 viewers that might otherwise result from WPFO(TV)’s transition to the ATSC 3.0 standard, Licensee also proposes to air:

- WPFO(TV)’s multicast stream currently affiliated with *DABL* in ATSC 1.0 format on WGME-TV; and
- WPFO(TV)’s multicast streams currently affiliated with *Charge!* and *Comet* in ATSC 1.0 format on WCBB(TV), Augusta, ME (Facility ID 39659; RF Channel 20) pursuant to a written hosting agreement with Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation.¹

Because of ATSC 1.0 capacity constraints, WPFO(TV) is not able to air all of its multicast streams on WGME-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 WPFO(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. Simulcasting those streams in ATSC 3.0 would reduce capacity available to NextGen stations for offering consumers the improved services that ATSC 3.0 enables. The types of services and improvements that would be precluded would include enhanced video featuring High Dynamic Range, Wide Color Gamut and High Frame Rate, immersive and multiple audio channels

¹ Simultaneously with this application, Licensee is submitting a request for Special Temporary Authority to permit Licensee to use Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation station WMEA-TV, Biddeford, ME (Facility ID 39656; RF Channel 36) as a supplemental ATSC 1.0 host for WPFO(TV)’s *Charge!* and *Comet* multicast streams to preserve access to that programming for a larger number of current WPFO(TV) viewers. Licensee is not including WMEA-TV in this Form 2100 license modification request because WMEA-TV does not cover WPFO(TV)’s community of license.

using Dolby AC-4, Advanced Emergency Alerting and Information functions as part of a broadcast receiver application, and non-real time interactive data delivery. Each of these requires a portion of the ATSC 3.0 capacity that would be unavailable were Licensee to carry multicast program streams as the ATSC 3.0 host for stations in the Portland, ME market. Even setting aside these impediments, significant additional engineering work and more equipment would be required to simulcast WPFO(TV)'s multicast streams in ATSC 3.0 and ATSC 1.0 formats. Obtaining, installing and testing that equipment would, at minimum, delay rollout of ATSC 3.0 in the Portland, ME market.

Host Capacity Limits: WPFO(TV) will be airing the same programming on the ATSC 1.0 host stations named herein as it is currently airing in ATSC 1.0 in the same resolutions, and therefore will not be using more capacity on the ATSC 1.0 host stations, in the aggregate, than it is currently using on its own ATSC 1.0 facilities. The PSIP virtual channels for each of WPFO(TV)'s program streams described herein will remain unchanged.

Coverage Requirements: Each of the proposed host stations is licensed to the same DMA as WPFO(TV) and their service contours completely cover WPFO(TV)'s community of license. The hosting arrangements with the host stations will enable the majority of current over-the-air viewers to continue to have access to WPFO(TV)'s programming streams. The service contour of WGME-TV covers 100% of WPFO(TV)'s current service area population, and the service contour of WCBB(TV) covers 65.7% of WPFO(TV)'s current service area population.² See attached Primary Stream Engineering and Multicast Stream Engineering Exhibits. Additionally, the arrangements will preserve access to those WPFO(TV) streams currently received for viewers who are receiving them via MVPDs. This arrangement complies with the requirement that children's television core programming be carried on either the same host as the primary stream or on a host that serves at least 95% of the predicted population served by WPFO(TV)'s pre-transition 1.0 signal, as WPFO(TV) averages at least three hours per week of core programming on its primary stream and does not intend to air any children's programming on the multicast streams.

MVPD and Consumer Notice Requirements: Licensee provided notice to MVPDs of each proposed signal relocation when it provided the requisite notice regarding relocation of WPFO(TV)'s primary stream and has coordinated with or will coordinate with MVPDs that carry WPFO(TV)'s programming streams to confirm that they will continue to receive a good quality signal of such streams from the feed. Licensee will air the requisite consumer notices and post to its website information regarding the station's transition to the ATSC 3.0 standard and the need for over-the-air viewers to rescan on April 25, 2024.

In summary, Applicant proposes to air WPFO(TV)'s streams in ATSC 1.0 on temporary host facilities as depicted in the chart on the following page. This information is available on WPFO(TV)'s website (<https://fox23maine.com/>) at the FCC Applications link.

² As discussed in the accompanying STA request, a WCBB-TV/WMEA-TV host combination would cover 92.6% of WPFO(TV)'s current service area population.

WPFO(TV) Stream and Virtual Channel	Current ATSC 1.0 RF Channel and Resolution	Post-Relocation ATSC 1.0 RF Channel and Resolution	ATSC 1.0 Host Station	Simulcast in ATSC 3.0?
FOX (Primary) 23.1	17.3 720p	15.6 720p	WGME-TV	Yes
DABL 23.4	17.6 480i	15.7 480i		No
Charge! 23.2	17.4 480i	20.7 480i	WCBB(TV) ³	No
Comet 23.3	17.5 480i	20.8 480i		No

³ If the Commission grants the STA request to permit WMEA-TV to serve as a supplemental multicast stream host, the *Charge!* and *Comet* streams will also air in ATSC 1.0 format on WMEA-TV (RF Channels 36.7 and 36.8, respectively) in 480i.