

### **Request for Special Temporary Authorization**

TV Translator Station K10QW-D, Healy, AK (Facility ID 189985)

Pursuant to Sections 74.780 and 73.1635 of the FCC's Rules, the University of Alaska (the "University"), permittee of noncommercial educational TV translator Station K10QW-D, Healy, Alaska, respectfully requests Special Temporary Authorization ("STA") to operate the station in accordance with the technical parameters proposed in its pending channel 13 displacement permit application in FCC File No. 0000029054 (copy attached).

The University filed the channel 13 displacement modification application for this TV translator authorization on July 26, 2017. As explained in the engineering statement to that application, the displacement is necessary because extensive testing has determined that it is not possible for the authorized K10QW-D channel 10 facility to receive a signal from its parent noncommercial education station KUAC-TV, channel 9 in Fairbanks, Alaska, without significant interference. Switching the translator to channel 13, as proposed in the pending displacement modification and this STA request, alleviates the interference problem and allows for commencement of operation over the translator station.

The University understands that the pending displacement modification application may not be processed at this time due to considerations related to the on-going Incentive Auction repacking process and LPTV/TV translator displacement procedures.<sup>1</sup> Therefore the University seeks STA to operate its Healy, Alaska TV translator on channel 13 as proposed in the recent displacement application while that application remains pending and until it may be processed following the close of the upcoming Special Displacement Window.<sup>2</sup> The attached displacement application in File No. 0000029054 and its exhibits demonstrate that the proposed facility complies with the FCC's technical and interference rules.

The University respectfully submits that a grant of STA will serve the public interest by allowing the commencement of noncommercial educational programming (rebroadcasting the University's co-owned KUAC-TV) over this translator for viewers in the area of Healy, Alaska, where service is extremely limited. As noted in the displacement filing, Healy is a bush/mining community of approximately 500 persons. The University recently received four phone calls from the area seeking assistance to receive programming. Notably, the University has attempted several technical fixes to correct the interference issues preventing use of the authorized channel 10 facility, but they have been unsuccessful. Thus, the use of the channel 13 operation under STA represents the best option for providing service the area in a timely manner. Moreover, it is noteworthy that the translator site is only accessible by four-wheel all-terrain vehicles in the winter, which is coming soon, such that a prompt authorization to use channel 13 under STA

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<sup>1</sup> See *Freeze on the Filing of Applications for Digital Replacement Translator Stations and Displacement Applications*, Public Notice, 29 FCC Rcd 6063 (MB 2014) (*Displacement Freeze Public Notice*). The channel 13 displacement modification application in File No. 0000029054 requested a waiver of the filing freeze due to new or actual interference.

<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., *Incentive Auction Task Force and Media Bureau Set Forth Tools Available to LPTV/Translator Stations Displaced Prior to the Special Displacement Window*, DA 17-584, MB Docket No. 16-306, GN Docket No. 12-268 (June 14, 2017).

would benefit the University's ability to proceed with build-out and operation of the proposed STA facility before winter weather conditions set in.

The University of Alaska is a noncommercial educational licensee and it will operate this station on a noncommercial educational basis to rebroadcast the signal of its co-owned noncommercial educational television station KUAC(TV), Fairbanks, Alaska. The licensee is therefore exempt from FCC filing fee requirements, pursuant to Section 1.1116 of the Commission's Rules, and the facility is exempt from FCC regulatory fees, pursuant to Section 1.1162 of the Rules.