

WPXI DRT1 Displacement and Interference Considerations

Call Sign: WPXI

Station Type: Digital Replacement Translator

Licensee: WPXI, LLC

File Number: BLCDT-20130111ABQ

Facility ID: 73910

Location: New Castle, PA

Current Channel: 33

Proposed Channel: 34

Displacement Causes

Reason for displacement is predicted interference greater than 0.5 percent to Post-Incentive-Auction Spectrum Repack facilities of Full-Service station WFMJ on Channel 33.

Proposed Facility

The proposed replacement for the facility being displaced will remain at the existing location and operate on Channel 34 at 15 kW ERP using a directional antenna oriented toward 340 degrees.

Interference Analysis

An interference analysis was conducted, applying the FCC TVStudy program version 2.2.5. The Study Cell Size used was 0.5 km, and the Profile Point Spacing used was 0.1 km. Use of those parameters is requested in any confirming studies. A copy of the results obtained is included in the attachments to the current application.

The study results show no impermissible new Post-Transition interference to any stations of other licensees. The study results do show predicted new Post-Transition interference from several other stations to the proposed WPXI DRT, accumulating to approximately 27 percent. Indeed, one Full-Service station transitioning to Channel 33 in the spectrum repack alone contributes most of the predicted interference. WPXI, LLC agrees to accept the predicted interference from the stations shown in the interference analysis attached to the current application at the levels shown in that analysis.

Contingent Application

To ensure that as many potential channels as possible are available for displaced translator stations, the FCC has stated that it will permit stations to file displacement applications proposing channels that currently are occupied by repacked full-power and Class A stations. *See* Incentive Auction Task Force and Media Bureau Announce Post-Incentive Auction Special Displacement Window, *Public Notice*, DA 18-124 (rel. Feb. 9, 2018) at ¶17 (“*Public Notice*”). WPXI accordingly requests waiver of the contingent application rule, 47 C.F.R. §73.3517, as necessary to process and grant the instant application. Studies of Pre-Transition interference to current stations and operations show potential interference to one station: WQHS-DT on Channel 34 in Cleveland, OH, with predicted new interference of 2.88 percent. Full operation of the proposed WPXI DRT displacement facilities therefore will be contingent upon WQHS-DT moving to its new assignment on Channel 36. WPXI agrees to the condition that it will not begin transmitting on Channel 34 prior to the discontinuance of operations there by WQHS-DT. *Public*

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Notice at ¶7. Operation of the proposed WPXI-DRT facility may be possible, however, at reduced power or through an interference acceptance agreement with the licensee of WQHS-DT, in which cases any necessary approval by the FCC will be sought. Otherwise, to the extent necessary, therefore, waivers are requested of the provisions of the contingent application rules in §73.3517 and §73.3700(g)(2)(i) and/or any other rules that would be implicated by this application.