



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 15, 2018

NW Communications of Phoenix  
400 N. Capitol Street, NW  
Suite 890  
Washington, DC 20001

KSAZ-TV, Phoenix, AZ  
Facility ID No. 35587  
File No. 0000055279

Dear Licensee:

This letter is in reference to the above captioned application for experimental authority filed by NW Communications of Phoenix (NW Communications), licensee of full power television station KSAZ-TV, Phoenix, Arizona (KSAZ-TV or Station). NW Communications seeks experimental authority to transmit a Next Generation Television (Next Gen TV or ATSC 3.0) signal of KSAZ-TV over the channel licensed to KFPH-CD, Phoenix, Arizona (KFPH-CD).<sup>1</sup> For the reasons below, we grant NW Communications request for experimental authority under the Federal Communications Commission's (Commission) experimental rules governing product development and market trials—Sections 5.601 and 5.602 of the Commission's rules (Rules), respectively.<sup>2</sup>

On November 16, 2017, the Commission adopted rules authorizing the licensed transmission of the Next Gen TV broadcasting standard.<sup>3</sup> While certain rules became effective on February 2, 2018, the rules governing the one-step streamlined licensing process did not become effective until July 17, 2018.<sup>4</sup> The Media Bureau (Bureau) is in the process of making changes to its Licensing and Management System (LMS) to accommodate Next Gen TV license applications and the Bureau is not yet accepting applications for Next Gen TV licenses.<sup>5</sup> Thus, it is appropriate for a station to continue to seek experimental authority until the online filing process is complete.

On March 29, 2018, the Video Division (Division) granted Class A television station KFPH-CD experimental authority to convert its station to ATSC 3.0 transmissions in order to enable the deployment of an ATSC 3.0 broadcast "test bed" in Phoenix, Arizona (Phoenix Market Trial).<sup>6</sup> In the letter

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<sup>1</sup> KFPH-CD is licensed to Unimas Partnership of Phoenix (Unimas).

<sup>2</sup> 47 CFR §§ 5.601 and 5.602.

<sup>3</sup> *Authorizing Permissive Use of the "Next Generation" Broadcast Television Standard*, GN Docket No. 16-142, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 32 FCC Rcd 9930 (2017) (*ATSC 3.0 Report and Order*).

<sup>4</sup> *See Next Gen TV Report and Order*, Final Rules, 83 Fed. Reg. 4998 (Feb. 2, 2018) and 83 Fed. Reg. 33144 (Jul. 17, 2018).

<sup>5</sup> *See Next Gen TV Rules Receive OMB Approval Media Bureau Will Announce in Future Notice When Ready to Accept Next Gen TV License Applications*, GN Docket No. 16-142, DA 18-736 (MB Jul. 17, 2018).

<sup>6</sup> The stated objectives of the Phoenix Market Trial are as follows: (1) Test ATSC 3.0 television service, as well as new business models; (2) Develop a framework to facilitate nationwide deployment of ATSC 3.0 service, including best practices; (3) Test consumer devices; and (4) Collect real-time consumer input through surveys and focus groups.

authorizing the Phoenix Market Trial (*KFPH-CD Authorization Letter*),<sup>7</sup> the Division required that any other station that intends to participate in the Phoenix Market Trial must file its own application for experimental authority in order to transmit an ATSC 3.0 signal as a guest station of KFPH-CD.

NW Communications is requesting experimental authority to participate in the Phoenix Market Trial and air an ATSC 3.0 guest signal using KFPH-CD's ATSC 3.0 facility. As set forth in the application, KSAZ-TV has committed to continuing to air an ATSC 1.0 signal over its existing channel using its licensed facility. Neither KFPH-CD or KSAZ-TV will be required to make any changes to their facilities or technical parameters that would necessitate the filing of a construction permit. Both stations are located in the Phoenix, Arizona Designated Market Area and have entered into a written agreement governing the operation of KSAZ-TV's ATSC 3.0 guest signal. Such agreement is available for inspection by the Commission upon request. Because of spectrum capacity constraints and in order to accommodate all of the stations that will apply to participate in the Phoenix Market Trial, NW Communications seeks flexibility to rotate its ATSC 3.0 guest signal on and off its ATSC 3.0 host station, KFPH-CD.

We find that the public interest will be served by permitting KSAZ-TV to join the Phoenix Market Trial and air an ATSC 3.0 guest signal over KFPH-CD's facility. We agree that grant of the instant request for experimental authority will help advance the technical capabilities of Next Gen TV and allow broadcasters to further evaluate the services and benefits that ATSC 3.0 can offer consumers. Given the nature of this authorization as a market trial under our experimental rules, we find that it is appropriate to permit NW Communication's the authority to flexibly operate KSAZ-TV's ATSC 3.0 guest signal as it has proposed.

Accordingly, the experimental authority requested by NW Communications for KSAZ-TV **IS GRANTED** pursuant to 47 CFR §§ 5.601 and 5.602,<sup>8</sup> and is subject to the following conditions:

1. NW Communications must continue to provide uninterrupted ATSC 1.0 service on its existing channel and from its authorized facility. Operations of KSAZ-TV's ATSC 3.0 guest signal may in no way inhibit or diminish operation of its ATSC 1.0 service.
2. KSAZ-TV must operate its ATSC 3.0 guest signal consistent with the licensed parameters for Station KFPH-CD, Phoenix, Arizona. KSAZ-TV is solely authorized to operate from KFPH-CD's facility and in accordance with technical parameters assigned to KFPH-CD.
3. NW Communications must notify the Bureau at least 30 days before ceasing ATSC 3.0 if KSAZ-TV no longer plans to participate in the Phoenix Market Trial prior to the experimental authorization's expiration date.
4. Grant of the instant experimental authorization does not represent that KSAZ-TV would be granted a license to transmit a signal pursuant to the ATSC 3.0 rules. Such evaluation will occur once the Next Gen TV licensing applications are available for filing with the Commission.
5. Any broadcaster equipment or end-user devices must receive (as applicable) the necessary Commission equipment authorizations prior to use.

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<sup>7</sup> Letter from Barbara A. Kreisman to Unimas Partnership of Phoenix, licensee of KFPH-CD, Phoenix, AZ (granted Mar. 29, 2018) available at LMS File No. 0000048791.

<sup>8</sup> This action is being taken by the Video Division pursuant to the authority delegated to the Media Bureau under 47 CFR § 0.61.

6. This experimental authorization expires on March 29, 2019, one year from the date of the grant of the *KFPH-CD Authorization Letter*. There is no expectation of renewal.
7. Any other station that intends to participate in the Phoenix Market Trial must file its own application for experimental authority as required by the *KFPH-CD Authorization Letter*.
8. This experimental authorization is secondary and may be immediately terminated if the operation causes interference to any other broadcast facility or if either NW Communications or KSAZ-TV's ATSC 3.0 host station, KFPH-CD, fails to comply with the conditions of its grant. The Bureau may also terminate this authorization for any other reason upon at least 60-days written notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R a/k', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Barbara A. Kreisman  
Chief, Video Division  
Media Bureau

Cc:  
Ann Bobeck, Esq.  
Joseph M. Di Scipio, Esq.