

Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authority to Remain Silent

Television station WSVI(DT), Christiansted, U.S. Virgin Islands (Fac. ID No. 2370), hereby respectfully requests an extension of its special temporary authority to remain silent.¹ Currently, the date by which WSVI must return to the air is 12:01 a.m. on March 7, 2019. (It is noted, however, that until advised informally by FCC staff on March 6, 2019, WSVI believed that its authority to remain silent expired on March 20, 2019, as specified in the FCC's LMS database.)

WSVI was forced off the air on September 20, 2017, after sustaining major damage to its transmission system from Hurricane Maria. Alpha is working diligently to get WSVI back on the air as soon as possible and has all necessary equipment on hand to resume operations, but problems with its licensed transmission site have necessitated that WSVI relocate its technical facilities to a new transmitter site. An application for the minor modification of WSVI's transmission site was filed March 5, 2019 (File No. 0000059394) with a request for expedited processing. As soon as the application is granted and a new permit issued, WSVI is prepared to move expeditiously to complete construction and resume operations.

If necessary, WSVI also seeks a waiver of 47 U.S.C. § 312(g). As has been explained in WSVI's prior requests for extensions of its silent authority, and as the FCC has taken official notice, the devastation that occurred in the Virgin Islands (and Puerto Rico) as a result of Hurricanes Irma and Maria has significantly hindered the ability of numerous broadcasters (including WSVI) to resume normal operations. Accordingly, to promote equity and fairness, WSVI respectfully requests that the Commission waive 47 U.S.C. § 312(g), as necessary, and extend WSVI's license and silent authority to allow WSVI time to complete the reconstruction of its facilities and resume operations.

¹ Authority for the station to remain silent was originally granted in File No. 0000032527 and subsequently extended in File Nos. 0000052601 and 0000059394, pursuant to *Media Bureau Provides Guidance for Broadcast Licensees Still Rebuilding in the Aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria*, Public Notice, DA 18-901 (rel. Aug. 30, 2018).