

Request for Extension of WXXI-TV Construction Permit (LMS File No. 0000028426)

WXXI Public Broadcasting Council (WXXI), licensee of digital television broadcast station WXXI-TV located at Rochester, NY (Facility ID No. 57274), respectfully requests an extension of the WXXI-TV post-auction construction permit for Channel 22 (LMS File No. 0000028426). WXXI-TV had been on track to complete construction of its new, main Ch. 22 facility by July 23, 2019 and had planned to begin operating with its new channel on that date; however, WXXI was notified by its tower installation crew on July 17, 2019, that the motor on the crane that would be used to install its main antenna had failed and the tower company was not able to provide an expected installation date of the main antenna at this time. The tower crew did indicate that the crane will not be repaired before the mandatory Phase 4 transition date of August 2, 2019.

WXXI was able secure the use of a smaller crane that will allow it to remove its existing Ch. 16 auxiliary antenna and install its new Ch. 22 auxiliary antenna. Since WXXI has been notifying the public that it plans to transition on July 23, 2019, WXXI intends to have the Ch. 22 auxiliary antenna installed as soon as possible in order to make the transition from Ch. 16 to Ch. 22 on July 23, 2019. WXXI is, along with the filing of the request for a CP extension, simultaneously filing a request for Special Temporary Authority to operate on Ch. 22 with its auxiliary/interim facility since WXXI will not be able to meet the August 2, 2019 construction permit deadline due to an unexpected delay.

WXXI, therefore, respectfully requests an additional one hundred and eighty days, or until January 29, 2020, to complete the construction of the facility specified in the WXXI-TV construction permit. To the extent necessary, WXXI also respectfully requests a waiver of the Commission's requirement that the request for extension of post-auction construction deadlines be submitted ninety days prior to the existing construction permit deadline. Grant of the extension and waiver request would be in the public interest as it would facilitate the WXXI-TV move to its new post-auction facility without impacting the repack schedule since WXXI-TV plans to already be operating on its post-auction channel by the August 2, 2019 deadline.