

Request for Extension of Post-Auction Construction Permit

Mission Broadcasting, Inc. (“Mission”), the licensee of WFXP(TV), Erie, Pennsylvania, FAC ID 19707, respectfully requests an extension of its post-auction construction permit for Channel 26. See LMS File No. 0000028342. WFXP(TV) is operating on its pre-auction Channel 22 and is prepared to transition to its post-auction Channel 26, using interim facilities, at the conclusion of Phase Four - on August 2, 2019.

As the Media Bureau is aware, the WFXP(TV) post-transition (final) antenna has not yet been installed due to weather and rigging delays. Consequently, Mission is concurrently seeking special temporary authority (“STA”) to operate with interim facilities in order to vacate its pre-auction Channel 22. See STA Request LMS File No. 0000079409. The proposed STA operations completely encompass the WFXP(TV) community of license.

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 73.3700(b)(5), the Media Bureau has the authority to provide an extension of the construction deadline for up to six months if the reassigned station encounters circumstances that include weather delays, construction delays, tower lease disputes, unusual technical challenges and permitting and zoning delays. Due to circumstances beyond its control, the Mission is subject to unavoidable construction delays. Accordingly, Mission respectfully requests an extension of its post-auction construction permit until January 29, 2020.

To the extent necessary, Mission also requests a waiver of the Commission’s requirement that requests for extension of post-auction construction deadlines be submitted 90 days prior to the existing construction permit deadline. Mission has made every effort to meet the Phase Four transition deadline but only recently determined that the antenna installation would be significantly delayed until after August 2, 2019. Grant of this waiver request and the extension of the CP would be in the public interest as it would allow the orderly transition of the station from its pre-auction channel to its post-auction channel by the transition deadline while still allowing the station to remain on the air while Mission completes the WFXP(TV) post-auction facility.