

## **Request for Special Temporary Authority**

### **WLPX-TV, Charleston, West Virginia**

Facility ID: 73189

ION Media Charleston License, Inc. ("ION"), licensee of television station WLPX-TV, Charleston, West Virginia (FCC Facility ID No. 73189), hereby requests Special Temporary Authority ("STA") for WLPX-TV to operate on its post-auction channel utilizing an interim antenna. WLPX-TV has been reassigned to Channel 18 in the incentive auction's repacking process and assigned to Transition Phase 6 of the repack with a Phase Completion Date of October 18, 2019.

WLPX-TV has a Construction Permit for its post-repack operations (FCC LMS File No. 0000069627). While WLPX-TV plans to transition to its post-auction channel during Phase 6, ION has experienced tower configuration challenges with another broadcaster co-located on the same tower, which have resulted in significant repack construction delays. Thus, ION will be unable to complete the extensive reconstruction required at WLPX-TV's post-repack facility by the Phase 6 deadline of October 18, 2019.

Accordingly, ION hereby seeks STA to move to an interim antenna on its post-auction Channel 18. On its transition date, currently planned for October 18, 2019, WLPX-TV will move to an interim antenna on its post-auction channel and will continue to operate on its interim antenna, at a reduced effective radiated power of 200 kW, until the main antenna for WLPX-TV is installed and made operational. See attached Engineering Exhibit. ION has filed and received an Extension of a Construction Permit for WLPX-TV's permanent post-auction facilities (FCC LMS File No. 0000078308).

Due to the unanticipated delays explained above, ION respectfully seeks STA to transition to its post-auction Channel 18 with an interim antenna during its assigned Phase 6 while the main antenna installation is being completed. Grant of this request for STA serves the public interest by allowing WLPX-TV to timely transition to its post-auction Channel 18 while it completes construction of its primary post-auction facility.