

Request for Special Temporary Authority

WZPX-TV, Battle Creek, Michigan

Facility ID: 71871

ION Media Battle Creek License, Inc. ("ION"), licensee of television station WZPX-TV, Battle Creek, Michigan (FCC Facility ID No. 71871), hereby requests Special Temporary Authority ("STA") for WZPX-TV to operate on its post-auction channel utilizing an interim antenna. WZPX-TV has been reassigned to Channel 21 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.

WZPX-TV has a Construction Permit for its post-repack operations (FCC LMS File No. 0000068453). While WZPX-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 WZPX-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 21. On its transition date, currently planned for October 18, 2019, WZPX-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 85 kW, until the main antenna for WZPX-TV is installed and made operational. See attached Engineering Exhibit. ION has filed and received an Extension of a Construction Permit for WZPX-TV's permanent post-auction facilities (FCC LMS File No. 0000078257).

Due to the unanticipated delays explained above, ION respectfully seeks STA to transition to its post-auction Channel 21 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 WZPX-TV to timely transition to its post-auction Channel 21 while it completes construction of its primary post-auction facility.