

WDRB(TV)-Request for STA to Operate on Interim Facilities

Independence Television Company, licensee of station WDRB(TV), Louisville, Kentucky, FIN 28476 (“WDRB”), hereby requests special temporary authority (“STA”), due to circumstances beyond its control, to operate on interim facilities while its permanent facilities are completed. WDRB hereby respectfully requests permission to operate from interim facilities for a period of up to 180 days, *i.e.*, from October 18, 2019 until April 15, 2020.

WDRB is assigned to transition from Channel 49 to Channel 32 in Phase 6 of the repack. WDRB’s construction of its permanent facilities has been not been completed due to crew delays. As of the date of this filing, the station has substantially completed construction of its new tower. However, the top mount antennas cannot be activated until the false work/jin pole/jib assembly are removed from the tower, and this removal will require additional time to coordinate prior to the new main antenna being activated. Because WDRB will not be able to fully complete construction of its permanent post-repack facilities by the end of Phase 6 on October 18, 2019, the station plans to retune its auxiliary antenna for interim operation and cut-over using the interim facilities on its new channel on that date. Accordingly, while WDRB will timely transition to its new post-auction channel during its assigned repack phase (Phase 6), it must do so by using interim facilities.

WDRB therefore respectfully requests STA to operate on its post-repack channel from interim facilities while construction is completed on its permanent facilities. This request will not affect the repack efforts of other stations because, prior to completion of Phase 6, WDRB will transition to its post-repack channel. Grant of the instant STA request would be in the public interest because it would permit WDRB to broadcast on its post-repack channel without disruption to the overall repack.

WDRB will cease operations on its pre-auction facilities and begin broadcasting on its post-auction channel utilizing the temporary facilities requested in the underlying request for STA prior to the end of Phase 6.