

WSTR-TV – Request for STA to Operate on Interim Facilities

Deerfield Media (Cincinnati) Licensee, LLC, licensee of station WSTR-TV, Cincinnati, OH, FIN 11204 (“WSTR”), hereby requests special temporary authority (STA), due to circumstances beyond its control, to operate on interim facilities while its permanent facilities are completed, and further requests a waiver of the Commission’s rules to the extent necessary. WSTR hereby respectfully requests permission to operate from interim facilities for a period of 180 days from October 18, 2019 until April 15, 2020.

WSTR is assigned to transition from Channel 33 to Channel 18 in Phase 6 of the repack. WSTR’s construction of its permanent facilities has been delayed due to equipment delivery and crew delays. As of this filing, the station’s interim low power transmitter and interim antenna have been installed. The station’s post-repack permanent full power transmitter and full power antenna have yet to be installed; therefore, WSTR plans to use the interim transmitter and the interim antenna to effectuate the transition to its new post-repack channel. Because of the time needed to install the new main full power transmitter and the main antenna, WSTR will not be able to fully complete construction of its permanent post-repack facilities by the end of Phase 6 on October 18, 2019, but the station plans to cut over using the interim facilities on its new channel on that date.

Thus, WSTR respectfully requests an STA to operate on its post-repack channel from interim facilities while construction is completed on its permanent facilities. This request will not impact the repack efforts of other stations because, prior to the completion of Phase 6, WSTR will still transition to its post-repack channel. Furthermore, grant of the instant STA request would be in the public interest because it would allow WSTR to broadcast on its post-repack channel without disruption to the overall repack.

WSTR will cease operations on its pre-auction facilities and intends to begin broadcasting on its post-auction channel utilizing the above-referenced temporary facilities prior to the end of Phase 6.