

KGRQ-LD Gila River Indian Community, AZ
Request for Special Temporary Authority to Operate at Reduced Power

As required by 47 CFR § 73.1635, Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. ("GRTI") respectfully requests a Special Temporary Authority ("STA") for KGRQ-LD Gila River Community, AZ, facility ID 187708, to continue operating at reduced power for a period of up to six months for this Low Power Television ("LPTV") station. The FCC has a history of granting such requests, particularly where, as here, the request is supported by good cause and granting it would further the public interest.

In August 2018, KGRQ-LD filed a Displacement Minor Modification application with the FCC as a remedy for the 600 MHz spectrum auction displacement by KTAZ-TV Phoenix on TV channel 29.

In October 2018, KGRQ-LD was granted a Special Temporary Authority to operate on channel 21 from Sacaton Peak. We established that this remedy would avoid interference to existing TV facilities and to enlarge the coverage area so as to encompass the coverage areas of both KGRQ-LD and KGRY-LD.

On November 29, 2018, KGRQ-LD began broadcasting as allowed by its STA from Sacaton Peak at a reduced output of 4.5 kW EIRP on channel 21 in advance of KTAZ-TV displacing it on channel 29.

On March 6, 2019, the FCC granted KGRQ-LD a Construction Permit to build a facility to transmit permanently on UHF-TV channel 21 from Sacaton Peak, AZ.

Due to the lightweight construction of the tower used at Sacaton Peak, our consulting structural engineer, Tower Engineering Company of Seattle, WA, determined that we could mount only three UHF panel antennas on the designated level above ground. With this temporary array, we have the correct transmission pattern, but with the 1.2 kW TPO transmitter we have, this leaves us with only 4.5 kW of the permitted 15 kW EIRP until we can have the tower reinforced for the additional load-bearing specification to handle the load of twelve antennas. Obtaining a contractor for this job has proven to be a challenge that has caused substantial delays. GRTI will continue to seek and employ a suitable contractor to conduct the needed reinforcement.

GRTI requests this Special Temporary Authority renewal to operate at reduced power be renewed for an additional six months while we reinforce the tower in question. Because the continued operation of KGRQ-LD serves the local Gila River Indian Community with locally-produced programming, we assert that granting this request would be in the public interest.