

WYME-CD – Request for STA to Operate on Pre-Repack Channel

New Age Media of Gainesville License, LLC, licensee of station WYME-CD, Gainesville, FL, FIN 7726 (“WYME”), hereby requests special temporary authority (“STA”), due to circumstances beyond its control, to continue to operate on its pre-repack, Channel 45 facilities while its post-repack facilities are completed, and further requests a waiver of the Commission’s rules to the extent necessary. As discussed with staff, WYME hereby respectfully requests permission to operate on its pre-repack facilities for five (5) days from January 17, 2020 until January 22, 2020.

WYME is assigned to transition from Channel 45 to Channel 27 in Phase 7 of the repack. WYME’s construction of its permanent facilities has been delayed due to tower crew delays. As of this filing, the transmitter is completed and has been proofed, and the antenna and transmission line have been delivered to the site. However, the tower crew scheduled to install the WYME antenna has been delayed finalizing another station’s antenna at the same site, after which they will turn to the installation of WYME’s post-repack antenna. Therefore, WYME plans to operate on Channel 45 until the tower crew is able to finalize installation of the post-repack, Channel 27 antenna. Because of the time needed to install the new antenna, WYME will not be able to fully complete construction of its permanent post-repack facilities by the end of Phase 7 on January 17, 2020, but the station plans to continue operations on Channel 45 for only a brief period.

Thus, WYME respectfully requests an STA to continue to operate on its pre-repack channel while construction is completed on its permanent facilities. This request will not impact the repack efforts of other stations because, there are no downstream dependencies with respect to WYME’s transition. For this reason, the grant of the instant STA request would be in the public interest because it would allow WYME to broadcast on its post-repack channel without disruption to the overall repack.