

KGBT-TV – Request for Construction Permit Extension

KGBT Licensee, LLC, licensee of station KBGT-TV, Harlingen, Texas, FIN 34457 (“KGBT”), hereby requests extension of its construction permit (LMS File No. 0000105747) (“CP”) 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. *See* 47 C.F.R. Section 73.3700(b)(5)(iv).¹ KGBT hereby respectfully requests an extension of its CP for 120 days from July 3, 2020 until October 31, 2020.

KGBT is assigned to transition from Channel 31 to Channel 18 in Phase 10 of the repack. The station has made significant progress in constructing its post-transition facilities, including installation of its permanent post-repack transmitter. However, due to scheduling and tower crew delays brought on by the global COVID-19 pandemic, and by various states’ stay-at-home orders, the station’s permanent post-repack antenna has yet to be installed, and KGBT will not be able to fully complete construction of its permanent post-repack facilities by the end of Phase 10 on July 3, 2020. However, KGBT plans to transition using an interim antenna on its new channel, Channel 18, by the Phase 10 deadline.

Thus, KGBT respectfully requests an extension of its CP since it will not be able to complete the construction and installation of its permanent post-repack antenna prior to the end of Phase 10, and therefore will not be able to cover its CP by the July 3, 2020 Phase 10 deadline. KGBT is simultaneously filing a request for an STA to operate on temporary interim facilities until KGBT can complete the construction. This request will not impact the repack efforts of other stations because KGBT plans to operate on its post-repack channel by the July 3, 2020 Phase 10 deadline. Furthermore, grant of the instant CP extension request would be in the public interest because it would allow KGBT to broadcast on its post-repack channel without disruption of service to the public.

¹ This request has been filed fewer than 90 days before KGBT’s current construction deadline. Due to the fluid nature of the COVID-19 outbreak stay-at-home measures, it was not clear until recently that completion its post-repack facilities would be delayed beyond the current deadline. KGBT thus respectfully requests a waiver of 47 C.F.R. §73.3700(b)(5)(iv).