

W46EU-D, Raleigh, NC Facility #61209

Request for further extension of silent authority STA and extension of license pursuant to Section 312(g) beyond the one-year silent anniversary.

W46EU-D was forced off the air on September 7, 2019 due to the commencement of operations by T-Mobile on Channel 46 in the Raleigh, NC area. An application was filed during the Special Displacement Window and a construction permit, File# 0000054721 (along with a minor modification File# 0000114375) was granted for a replacement channel (33).

On March 9, 2020 a request to extend silent authority for this station was filed and remains pending at this time (File # 0000107358). Although some progress had been made as to the planning for the construction of the new station, there was still a considerable amount of work left to do in order to get the station operational. Therefore, Ventana Television Inc. ("Ventana") sought additional temporary relief from section 74.763(b) in the form of an extension to silent STA 081493. Presently, the transmitter and antenna have both been fabricated, purchased and prepared to be shipped to the site for installation. Unfortunately though, in the time since that initial extension request was filed, Ventana has faced circumstances beyond its control that has prevented its ability to resume operations and thus finds itself in the situation where it must request a further extension of silent authority and an extension of its license pursuant to Section 312(g) beyond the one-year anniversary of the initial grant.

Ventana's engineering team had been working closely with representatives of the tower site owner to have Ventana's new equipment installed, but the installation of Ventana's equipment has been delayed by a lack of the definitive structural opinion letter approving the installation of the equipment on the tower until just this past Friday (8/28/2020). Ventana is now expecting a notice to proceed to be issued by the tower site owner and, once it is granted, Ventana will commence installation of its equipment soon thereafter. It is not exactly clear as to why the structural opinion letter took as long as it did, but in general this industry has been beset with many challenges (e.g., general lack of manpower available due to the overall increased level of tower work in the industry presently coupled with past delays in equipment fabrication caused by omnipresent issues with Covid-19 health concerns) which have resulted in unanticipated and extraordinary difficulties beyond Ventana's control in working through all of Ventana's displaced stations' operations in the past twelve months.

This application is in the public interest by enabling W46EU-D to return to normal broadcasting as soon as it is able to install its equipment so that the facility can be rebuilt on its displacement channel and continue serving the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

A silent STA is requested for a period of six months from the date of this application.

Ventana Television, Inc. plans to resume broadcasting as soon as the reconstruction can be accomplished.