

REQUEST FOR FURTHER EXTENSION OF SILENT STA

The Southern Oregon Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists (“SOC”), licensee of low power television station KEVE-LD, Vancouver, Washington (Facility ID #67878) (the “Station”), hereby requests a further extension of the Special Temporary Authority to remain silent. Additional time is needed to complete the modifications occasioned by the television repack and to restore the station to service.

The Station has been silent since April 12, 2019, when it was required to vacate its channel in the course of the television repack. The subsequent history of SOC’s difficulties in completing the construction of the Station’s post-repack facilities are recounted in SOC’s April 10, 2020, and October 18, 2020, requests to the extend the silent STA and license notwithstanding the 12 months of silence. The Video Division granted the further extension request in a letter dated October 19, 2020. The license was extended for a period of 180 days, which period expired on April 18, 2021. During this most recent interim, SOC has continued to experience unusual circumstances beyond its control that have made it impossible to complete the modifications to the Station.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to disrupt commerce and everyday life in the Portland, Oregon, metropolitan area where both the Station’s community of license and SOC’s offices are located. Oregon continues to have the most restrictive COVID guidelines. The state was subject to several weeks of stay-at-home orders during November and December 2020. Oregon continues to be rated at “high risk” for COVID, which is keeping many work places and offices closed, including SOC’s offices. In Portland, businesses are just now beginning to consider normal operations.

A once-in-a-century ice storm in February caused extensive damage across the Portland region (including in SOC’s office complex). All outdoor work of any kind had to be suspended for several weeks. Recovery is still ongoing.

SOC has filed several Form 399 reimbursement requests to keep the financial and paperwork procedures moving. However, this process was disrupted when the FCC misplaced SOC’s Form 1876. This resulted in funding and purchasing delays, which have contributed to the overall delay in completing this project.

The continued delay in completing construction of the Station’s repacked facilities has been caused by circumstances beyond SOC’s control. Therefore, SOC respectfully requests that the Station’s license be extended for another six months notwithstanding its continued silence. Such a grant would be a warranted exercise of the statutory discretion the Commission has to extend licenses of silent stations in the interest of fairness and equity.

If the requested extension is granted, SOC plans to complete the repack modifications and return the Station to the air before the expiration of a new six-month extension period. In coordination with SOC’s repack consultant, In the next month, SOC expects to complete the structural analysis of the antenna structure to support the Station’s antenna, as required by the structure’s owner. Months 2 and 3 will be devoted acquiring the specific equipment needed and scheduling work crews for assembly and installation. Actual installation is expected to be completed by the end of month 4. The estimate for the timing for resumption of on-air operations is sometime during month 5.