

**Request for Extension
Of Special Temporary Authority**

Puerto Rico Public Broadcasting Corporation (“PRPBC”), licensee of Station WIPR-DT, San Juan, Puerto Rico (“Station”), hereby requests an extension of the Special Temporary Authority to operate at reduced facilities (File No. 0000111346) (“STA”).

As the FCC is aware, Hurricane Maria destroyed the tower site specified in the Station’s post-Incentive Auction construction permit authorization. The Station commenced operations with reduced facilities in August 2018, and is in the process of constructing its post-Incentive Auction facilities. The owner of the site on which the Station’s tower was located, known as La Santa Peak, is the Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources (“DRNA”). The tower that was located there (until Hurricane Maria knocked it down) was owned by WAPA-TV. After WAPA-TV informed PRPBC of its decision not to rebuild the tower, PRPBC then entered into an agreement directly with DRNA to erect a new tower at La Santa Peak. Although no further local approvals are necessary in order to start construction, because the tower will be over 700 feet tall, it required Federal Aviation Administration (“FAA”) approval. The FAA granted its approval in July of 2021.

PRPBC has taken substantive steps to complete the construction of the Station’s post-Incentive Auction facility, but, as indicated herein, circumstances beyond PRPBC’s control have made it impossible to complete such construction as of the date hereof. Although construction of the tower and the associated transmitter shelter will likely not be completed until mid-2022 at the earliest, PRPBC has made good faith efforts to resume operating the Station from La Santa Peak. PRPBC has ordered a transmitter for the Station, which is ready for shipment, and PRPBC expects to receive the associated antenna and transmission line sometime in the Fall of 2021. In addition, the tower manufacturer visited La Santa Peak in late July 2021 to finalize the tower layout and has promised to provide PRPBC with a timeline sometime soon as to when precisely the new tower will be installed. Along with the tower installation, PRPBC also will construct a new transmitter building, in addition to other related installations. The Commission’s repack administrator approved funds for the construction of the Station’s new tower.

Based on the foregoing, pursuant to the flexibility afforded by the FCC to Puerto Rico licensees pursuant to the Public Notice, DA 18-901, dated August 30, 2018, which has provided additional time for television stations that have been silent since Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico in September 2017, PRPBC requests an extension of the STA to operate with reduced facilities for an additional six months. PRPBC is working as diligently as possible to resume operations with its post-Incentive Auction facility, but has faced insurmountable obstacles and delays, including the delayed decision by its tower owner not to reconstruct the shared tower, along with the delay in the delivery of construction resources and transmission equipment, which has forced PRPBC to continue operation on its post-Incentive Auction channel with reduced facilities. The devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic has added to the delays.

Grant of this request would be in the public interest because it will allow PRPBC to continue delivering the programming of the Station to viewers in San Juan and the surrounding areas without interruption.