

Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authority (Multicast Host Authorization)

TEGNA Inc. (“TEGNA”), on behalf of its subsidiary TEGNA Broadcast Holdings, LLC (“Licensee”), licensee of television station WCCT-TV, Waterbury, Connecticut (“WCCT”), hereby requests an extension and amendment of its Special Temporary Authority, to the extent required, to broadcast its ATSC 1.0-formatted multicast channels via the facilities of two local television stations in connection with WCCT’s conversion to broadcast transmission in the Next Gen Television (ATSC 3.0) standard.

WCCT commenced broadcasting in the Next Gen Television standard on October 12, 2021. WCCT broadcasts its own CW-affiliated primary stream, the Fox-affiliated primary stream of its sister station WTIC-TV, Hartford, Connecticut (“WTIC”), and the primary channels of ABC affiliate WTNH, New Haven, Connecticut (“WTNH”), CBS affiliate WFSB, Hartford, Connecticut (“WFSB”), and NBC owned-and-operated station WVIT, New Britain, Connecticut (“WVIT”).

WCCT satisfies the requirements of Section 73.3801(b) and (c) of the Commission’s rules by broadcasting an ATSC 1.0 simulcast of WCCT’s primary channel via the facilities of WTIC, which provides over-the-air access to WCCT’s primary channel to 96.68 percent of the population within WCCT’s ATSC 1.0 contour. Because WTIC does not have sufficient bandwidth to host WCCT’s multicast channels, the Commission granted Licensee’s request for Special Temporary Authority for WFSB and WTNH to serve as ATSC 1.0 hosts for WCCT’s multicast channels.¹

Licensee hereby seeks to extend its Legal STA for a further 180 days. This extension is in the public interest because it would allow WTIC, WCCT, WFSB, WTNH, and WVIT to continue offering advanced Next Gen Television service to viewers while also enabling WCCT to fully serve the needs and interests of its community by maintaining over-the-air viewers’ programming choices in the current ATSC 1.0 format.

In addition, Licensee seeks to amend its Legal STA by changing the affiliation of its multicast channel 20.2, hosted on WFSB, from Court TV to Grit. The amended hosting arrangements would be as follows:

PSIP	Affiliation	Host	Host RF Channel	ATSC 3.0 Simulcast
20.1	CW (Primary)	WTIC	34	Yes
20.2	Grit	WFSB	36	No
20.3	Comet	WFSB	36	No
20.4	Quest	WTNH	10	No

The change in the network affiliation of WCCT’s multicast stream 20.2 from Court TV to Grit would not alter the amount of spectrum bandwidth used by WCCT’s multicast streams, and if WCCT were broadcasting in ATSC 1.0 via WCCT’s own facilities, WCCT would be able to broadcast the above-

¹ TEGNA Broadcast Holdings, LLC, Letter, LMS File No. 0000159942 (MB Vid. Div. Oct. 8, 2021) (“*WCCT Multicast Hosting Grant*”).

described primary and multicast streams. Subject to the grant of Licensee's request herein, Licensee intends to implement this affiliation change in December 2022.

Licensee would remain "the sole party responsible for ensuring compliance with all statutory and regulatory requirements with regard to" the WCCT-originated multicast channels, including without limitation with respect to "political broadcasting, children's programming, equal employment opportunities, public inspection files, indecency, sponsorship identification, station identification, contests, the CALM Act, and the Emergency Alert System."²

WCCT's continued use of multiple ATSC 1.0 hosts will maintain existing service to viewers without burdening any party. Licensee notes that WCCT continues to fulfill all of its children's programming requirements by airing core E/I programming on the station's primary stream. WCCT does not, and does not intend to, rely on any programming broadcast on its multicast streams for compliance with the Commission's children's programming requirements.

For the reasons set forth above, the Commission should grant forthwith Licensee's request for an extension and amendment of its Special Temporary Authority, to the extent required, to broadcast WCCT's ATSC 1.0-formatted multicast channels via the facilities WFSB and WTNH, while WCCT continues its broadcast transmission in the Next Gen Television standard.

² *Id.* at 3 (footnote omitted).