

Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authority

Raleigh (WRDC-TV) Licensee, Inc. (“Licensee”), licensee of WRDC(TV), Raleigh, NC (Facility ID 54963), hereby requests further extension of the Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) that was granted on November 16, 2020 (and was most recently extended on March 16, 2023) in connection with WRDC(TV)’s launch of ATSC 3.0 broadcast service. *See* File Nos. 0000125063 and 0000211889. On November 17, 2020, Licensee commenced ATSC 3.0 operations from WRDC(TV)’s facility, which serves as the ATSC 3.0 host for stations in the Raleigh, NC market, and began simulcasting its primary stream in ATSC 1.0 format on commonly owned WLFL(TV), Raleigh, NC (Facility ID 73205), pursuant to its Next Generation license. *See* File No. 0000125503. Additionally, Licensee began broadcasting its multicast stream affiliated with the *Charge!* network from the facilities of WNCN(TV), Goldsboro, NC (Facility ID 50782), and broadcasting its multicast stream affiliated with the *Comet TV* network using the facilities of WTVD(TV), Durham, NC (Facility ID 8617), pursuant to the November 16, 2020 STA and written hosting agreements with Nexstar Media Inc. (“Nexstar”) and ABC, Inc. (“ABC”), respectively. This request seeks an extension of STA to allow WRDC(TV) to continue the multicast hosting arrangements with WNCN(TV) and WTVD(TV) for the broadcast of its multicast streams from their respective facilities in ATSC 1.0 format.

As explained in Licensee’s original request for STA, WRDC(TV) is not able to air its multicast streams on WLFL(TV), its primary ATSC 1.0 simulcast host, due to ATSC 1.0 capacity constraints. Furthermore, due to ATSC 3.0 capacity and other constraints attendant with the multi-station and multi-market coordination needed for a successful ATSC 3.0 deployment across the country, it is not feasible for Licensee to simulcast WRDC(TV)’s multicast streams in an ATSC 3.0 format without unduly minimizing, if not largely eliminating, the benefits to the public and the participating stations of transitioning to ATSC 3.0. Absent an extension of STA authorizing WRDC(TV) to air its multicast streams using the facilities of WNCN(TV) and WTVD(TV), all over-the-air viewers would lose access to an ATSC 1.0 signal of WRDC(TV)’s multicast streams. Although Licensee has agreed to indemnify Nexstar and ABC from and against all liabilities or claims resulting from or arising out of the programming and advertising broadcast on Licensee’s program streams using the facilities of WNCN(TV) and WTVD(TV) (as applicable), Licensee is requesting extension of the STA to make clear that Licensee will remain responsible for the *Charge!* and *Comet TV* streams’ compliance with the Communications Act and the Commission’s rules and regulations.

WRDC(TV) is airing the same programming, in the same resolutions, on ATSC 1.0 host stations as it previously aired in ATSC 1.0 from its own facility. It therefore is not using more capacity on the ATSC 1.0 host stations, in the aggregate, than it would have been able to use on its own facilities if it were still broadcasting in the ATSC 1.0 format. The PSIP (virtual) channels for each of WRDC(TV)’s program streams have remained unchanged and continue to be identified as associated with WRDC(TV). WNCN(TV) and WTVD(TV) are both licensed to the same DMA as WRDC(TV), and the host stations’ service contours completely cover WRDC(TV)’s community of license. The service contours of WNCN(TV) and WTVD(TV) cover a majority (96% and 100%, respectively) of the service area population that was covered by WRDC(TV)’s ATSC 1.0 facilities.

As such, Licensee respectfully requests extension of the STA. Grant of this STA request

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WRDC(TV), Durham, NC (Facility ID 54963)

will serve the public interest because it would advance the Commission's ATSC 3.0 policy goals while preserving WRDC(TV)'s ability to air its programming streams in the ATSC 1.0 format and ensure access to the programming currently received for most over-the-air viewers. It will make clear that WRDC(TV) is an authorized user of a portion of WNCN(TV)'s and WTVD(TV)'s channels and is the party responsible for ensuring compliance with the Communications Act and the Commission's rules and regulations.

The hosting arrangements described herein are depicted in the chart below.

WRDC(TV) Stream and Virtual Channel	Pre-Relocation ATSC 1.0 RF Channel and Resolution	Post-Relocation ATSC 1.0 RF Channel and Resolution	ATSC 1.0 Host Station	Simulcast in ATSC 3.0?
MyNetwork (Primary) 28.1	14.3 720p	18.7 720p	WLFL(TV)	Yes
Charge! 28.2	14.4 480i	8.7 480i	WNCN(TV)	No
Comet TV 28.3	14.5 480i	9.4 480i	WTVD(TV)	No