

Further Details Regarding Interference and Public Interest Considerations

The parties have agreed to accept interference, if any, that may exist based upon the operations as set forth in the WMBQ-CA application (proposing operation on digital channel 46), the WLIG-LD application (proposing operation on digital channel 45 and relocation of the station's transmitting facilities) and the FCC authorization for WLNY-TV (specifying digital channel 47). However, in light of the facts that WMBQ-CA and WLIG-LD will co-locate their transmitting facilities at the same site and both stations will install and maintain full-power mask filters, neither station will cause interference to the other station. Moreover, operation of WMBQ-CA with the full-power mask filter will greatly minimize any interference that WMBQ-CA will cause to WLNY-TV. To the extent deemed necessary, a waiver is requested to permit the installation and maintenance of the full-power mask-filters by WLIG-LD and WMBQ-CA; such waiver is clearly in the public interest and justified under the circumstances set forth herein. The interference agreement of the parties is consistent with Section 73.6022 of the FCC's rules. As explained below, the grants of the WLIG-LD and WMBQ-CA applications pursuant to that agreement would provide significant public interest benefits which far outweigh the minimal impact of the interference in the small area which is well served by many other television signals.

The impact of interference in this relatively small area is minimized because WLNY-TV has very few off-the-air viewers in the market. The vast majority of television households (in excess of 90%) which will receive WLNY-TV signal via one or more multi-channel video program distributors will continue to receive the WLNY-TV service. WLNY-TV delivers its signal by fiber optic link to all traditional cable systems, as well as DirecTV and Dish Network, which carry the signal of the station. There are very few off-the-air TV viewers in the affected area and WLNY-TV's audience share of those viewers is estimated to be at much less than 1% under its post-transition operation on digital channel 47. In actuality, however, there will be very little, if any, disruption of service for off-the-air viewers in the affected area because WLNY-TV, operating as a digital only station on channel 57 (pre-transition) since January 1, 2006, did not even provide coverage over most of that area. It should also be noted that off-the-air viewers in the affected area will receive service from WLIG-LD and a multiplicity of other off-the-air TV signals available from New York market stations.

Grants of the WMBQ-CA application and WLIG-LD application is in the public interest. Such action will avoid costly and protracted controversy and/or litigation between the parties which would otherwise delay television service to the public. Such action will allow both stations to substantially expand their coverage areas. As a result, the programming broadcast by both stations will continue to be available to current viewers on an improved digital basis. This programming will also become available for the first time to a much larger segment of the public, thereby adding to the diversity of programming choices available to a much greater number of television viewers.