

Sunflower Broadcasting, Inc.
KWCH-DT, Hutchinson, KS
Facility ID No. 66413

Statement in Support of Request for an Emergency STA

Sunflower Broadcasting, Inc., licensee of Station KWCH-DT, Hutchinson, Kansas, requests Special Temporary Authority to increase its ERP immediately on channel 12 from 19.1 kW to 33.2 kW.

On June 12, 2009, KWCH transitioned from its pre-transition digital service on channel 19 to its post-transition authorized facility on channel 12. The KWCH call center is receiving a large number of calls from viewers with both indoor and outdoor antennas who were able to receive digital service on channel 19 but cannot receive service on channel 12. Many of these calls are from locations within the City of Wichita, and some are from callers who are able to receive other local digital signals, but not the KWCH signal. The station has asked these callers to rescan to make sure that the reception problems are not the result of a failure to scan, but rescanning has not resolved the problem.

The KWCH transmitter has the capability of increasing power to produce an ERP of 33.2 kW. In order to reduce loss of coverage as much as possible and to avoid disruption during the transition, Sunflower Broadcasting asks for immediate Special Temporary Authority to increase power while it investigates the causes of these unexpected coverage issues and potential solutions.

As the engineering study attached to this application demonstrates, KWCH operating at 33.2 kW would not cause interference to any other operating facility.