

Request for Expedited Processing for KRQT, Castle Rock, WA

KRQT's transmitter site is located in a remote area, which is snowed in and essentially inaccessible for several months each year. There is no electricity at the site and the licensee runs entirely on propane-fueled electric generators.

Last Winter was particularly severe. In order to refuel the generators this past Spring, the licensee had to hire a snow plow to work for several days to clear 8 miles of 15-foot snow drifts. Otherwise, the propane truck could not make it to the site. In fact, the generators ran out of fuel the day before the snow plow finally broke through to the site. KRQT was off the air for a day.

To compound the problem, one of KRTQ's two generators has just failed. It has to be replaced. The licensee may not be able to get a replacement until after the snow has made the site inaccessible. The licensee dreads going 5 or more months with only one generator running full time since it is likely that the station risks being inoperable for a prolonged period of time.

A nearby site has just become available. It has an enormous advantage – electricity from the power grid. The licensee has decided to move to this site and end the extreme difficulties of dealing with self-generated electricity.

This new site is also subject to similar snowfall amounts. In order to build the site before the snow makes it inaccessible, the licensee needs to construct as soon as possible. The licensee also needs to move its existing equipment out of the current site before it becomes inaccessible. Consequently, the licensee respectfully requests expedited action on its application so that it can commence the site move before the snow makes that move impossible this season.