

Notification of Early Transition and “Nightlight” Service

WCAX-DT, Burlington, Vermont, hereby notifies the Commission that it intends to terminate service on Channel 53, its pre-transition digital channel, no later than midnight on February 17, 2009, regardless of whether pending legislation results in a postponement of the deadline for completing the transition to digital television. WCAX-DT requests Special Temporary Authority (STA) to commence operations on February 18, 2009 on Channel 22, its authorized post-transition channel, in accordance with the STA the Commission granted to facilitate the change from Channel 53 to Channel 22 (File No. BDSTA-20080813AEI). WVNY-TV, Burlington, Vermont, which operates on analog Channel 22, will terminate broadcasting on that channel by February 17. Thus, operation on Channel 22 will not result in interference to any other full-power station.

WCAX’s request is directly related to the transition to digital television. As the Commission is aware from many previous requests, the transition to digital television in the Burlington-Plattsburgh DMA is particularly complex since all of the stations will share one antenna site for their post-transition operations. In addition, WCAX shares main and backup antennas, with their associated combiners, with WPTZ-DT, North Pole, New York. The stations have concluded that the public interest in the market would be best served by proceeding to complete the transition and by terminating regular analog service on one date.

WCAX-TV also notifies the Commission that it will terminate regular analog television service by midnight on February 17, 2009. WCAX will, for a period of at least 30 days, provide a “nightlight” service on Channel 3 in accordance with the rules adopted by the Commission in *Implementation of Short-Term Analog Flash and Emergency Readiness Act; Establishment of DTV Transition “Nightlight” Program*, MB Docket No. 08-255 (rel. Jan. 15, 2009).

WCAX will provide at least 120 viewer notifications of these changes by February 17, 2009, and will ensure that at least one of those notifications each day will be broadcast in prime time.