

DECLARATION

Bill Galloway hereby declares and states as follows:

1. I am Chief Engineer of West Virginia Media Holdings, LLC. West Virginia Media Holdings, LLC, is the licensee of television stations in West Virginia, including WOWK, Huntington, West Virginia (analog channel 13/pre-transition digital channel 47/post-transition digital channel 13). This declaration is submitted in support of an FCC filing to request authority for completion of an early digital transition to Channel 13.

2. Pursuant to an Emergency STA granted by the FCC's Video Division on January 29, 2009, WOWK has been operating its post-transition digital facility on Channel 13 since January 29, 2009. In addition, on January 29, 2009 WOWK notified the FCC of the discontinuance of operations of both its Channel 13 analog facility and its Channel 47 pre-transition digital facility, as the result of damage sustained in a severe ice storm. WOWK advised in that notification that it did not expect to be able to resume operation of its analog facility on Channel 13 and/or its pre-transition digital facility on Channel 47 prior to the station's transition to digital operation on Channel 13.

3. WOWK was already operating with reduced power prior to January 29, 2009, due to an equipment failure. On January 26, 2009, WOWK notified the FCC that the station had been operating with reduced power as of January 15, 2009, as the result of the failure of a contactor in the station's analog transmitter. The contactor was not operating within specifications, which caused it to introduce electrical spikes in the voltage supply of the transmitter and building. This failure caused a reduction in operating performance of the transmitting tubes in the transmitter. This required WOWK to run the transmitter at a reduced power to minimize the risk of more damage to the analog transmitter and even the pre-transition digital transmitter. The analog transmitter was built in 1982, and the specific part is no longer manufactured or available from a supplier.

4. In the following days, there was a severe ice storm in the area, which caused the electric power in the building to become unstable again. The electric spikes affected the transmitting tube performance since the contactor could not protect the components in the transmitter. The surges caused by the contactor also created further instability of the building's power. Discussions with other transmitter part manufacturers re-enforced the lack of availability of a new or replacement contactor for the analog transmitter. The only way to stop the contactor would be to defeat the component itself. This would mean bypassing a safety element, plus it would remove any means of remote control functions to the analog transmitter, including but not limited to ability to remotely turn the analog transmitter on or off.

5. The ice storm also adversely affected the Channel 47 digital transmitter. At the beginning of the ice storm the transmitter started losing power with high VSWR as a result of snow and ice build-up on the UHF antenna. Prior to total shut down the reflected power forced the Channel 47 transmitter off the air. The power surges created by the bad component in the analog transmitter caused the Channel 47 transmitter to become unstable and fail. Two failures occurred. One failure was the main fuse being blown again. The second failure was in the high voltage section

of the Channel 47 transmitter. The fuses were replaced by the high voltage section was damaged due to moisture build-up in the line feeding high voltage power supply located outside the building. The extreme ice and low temperature caused moisture to build up internally to conduit and feed lines. This build up was a result of the Channel 47 transmitter being without power for several days after the storm. Once the temperature of the Channel 47 transmitter reached above freezing, the transmitter would accept commercial power but would not supply high voltage. The feed line continues to be dried but without a moisture-clear line the Channel 47 transmitter will not operate. More than likely when high voltage can be supplied an assessment will discover damage to internal components. Lastly, the Channel 47 transmitter is the pre-transition transmitter and it is not connected to any back-up power source. When commercial power is lost at the building site the Channel 47 transmitter is off the air. Since DirectTV and Dish Network only carry digital signals, the result of the Channel 47 transmitter being off the air is that WOWK is not carried on those services. Even if WOWK could operate the analog transmitter, the bad contactor would create the same issues as above.

6. The forgoing statements are true and correct to my personal knowledge, under penalty of perjury.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Galloway

Date: _____