

EXHIBIT
REQUEST FOR SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION

WSAZ-TV, Huntington, West Virginia (Facility ID No. 36912) ("WSAZ"), provides analog television service on channel 3 and pre-transition digital service on channel 23. The station has elected to remain on channel 23 for post-transition digital operations. Currently, WSAZ broadcasts its analog signal from a top-mounted antenna and its pre-transition digital signal from a side-mounted antenna. *See* FCC File Nos. BDSTA-20021112ACN; BEDSTA-20080117ABB.

As part of the construction of its final digital facility, WSAZ must remove its top-mounted analog antenna and replace it with a top-mounted digital antenna. Because of West Virginia's harsh winter weather, WSAZ will not be able to install a top-mounted digital antenna until Spring 2009. Accordingly, WSAZ hereby requests Special Temporary Authorization ("STA") under the "alternative buildout" provisions set forth in paragraphs 94-96 of the Commission's *Report and Order*, MB Docket No. 07-91, FCC 07-228 (rel. Dec. 31, 2007) (the "Order") so that it may obtain additional time in which to complete construction of its final digital facility.

In order to obtain STA for alternative buildout, broadcasters must satisfy two criteria: (a) a unique technical challenge that warrants alternative buildout, and (b) the ability to provide post-transition service to at least 85 percent of the same population that receives a station's analog and digital service. *See* Order, ¶ 94. WSAZ faces the type of "unique technical challenge" that the Commission envisioned in paragraph 53 of the Order: the continued operation of its analog facilities prevents the station from completing construction of its full, authorized post-transition facilities. Further, as demonstrated in the attached technical exhibit, by using its side-mounted digital antenna, WSAZ will be able to provide post-transition digital service to 111.8% of the population that currently receives its analog service. Thus, WSAZ is eligible for STA to pursue an alternative buildout of its final digital facilities.

If its STA request is granted, on January 18, 2009, WSAZ will begin airing the viewer notifications specified in paragraph 91 of the Order.