



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

July 10, 2020

JBS, Inc.  
708-C Thimble Shoals Blvd.  
Newport News, VA 23606  
[NEALROSENBAUM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NEALROSENBAUM@GMAIL.COM)  
(via electronic mail)

Re: Request for Tolling Waiver  
WYSJ-CA, Yorktown, VA  
Facility ID No. 35134  
LMS File No. 0000117142

Dear Licensee,

On July 7, 2020, JBS, Inc. (JBS), the licensee of Station WYSA-CA, Yorktown, Virginia (WYSA-CA or Station), filed the above-referenced request for waiver of the Commission's tolling provisions and tolling of the Station's construction permit. For the reasons below, we grant JBS's waiver request and toll WYSJ-CA's construction permit to October 13, 2020.

*Background.* Pursuant to section 73.3700(b)(5) of the Commission's rules (Rules), a station that was assigned a new channel as a result of the Commission's incentive auction and repacking process may request a single extension of its construction permit deadline of up to 180 days to complete construction of its post-auction facility.<sup>1</sup> All subsequent requests for additional time to construct are subject to the Commission's tolling provisions of section 73.3598(b) of the Rules.<sup>2</sup> The Commission's tolling provisions provide that a construction permit deadline may be tolled under specific circumstances such as acts of God, delays due to administrative or judicial review, or construction that is delayed by any cause of action pending before a court of competent jurisdiction relating to any necessary local, state, or federal requirement for the construction or operation of the station, including any zoning or environmental requirement.<sup>3</sup> If a station does not qualify for tolling under these criteria, good cause may exist to waive the Commission's tolling provisions and tolling may still be warranted where the licensee can demonstrate that "rare and exceptional circumstances" prevented construction by the station's construction permit expiration date.<sup>4</sup>

WYSJ-CA requests waiver of the tolling rule and tolling of its construction permit for its post-incentive auction channel facilities to October 13, 2020. WYSJ-CA is currently silent while it completes

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<sup>1</sup> See 47 CFR § 73.3700(b)(5).

<sup>2</sup> See 47 CFR § 73.3700(b)(5)(i) citing 47 CFR § 73.3598(b).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> See 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review -- Streamlining of Mass Media Applications, Rules, and Processes, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 14 FCC Rcd 17525, 17542, para. 42 (1999) (recognizing that there may be "rare and exceptional circumstances" beyond the control of the licensee that do not fall under the tolling provisions, but "which would warrant the tolling of construction time." The Commission concluded that in such "limited circumstances," it would entertain requests for waiver of its "strict tolling provisions"); *Northeast Cellular Telephone Co. v. FCC*, 897 F.2d 1164, 1166 (D.C. Cir. 1990) and *WAIT Radio v. FCC*, 418 F.2d 1153, 1159 (D.C. Cir. 1969), *cert. denied*, 409 U.S. 1072 (1972); 47 CFR § 1.3 (waiver for good cause shown).

construction of its post-auction channel facilities.<sup>5</sup> WYSJ-CA was previously granted a construction permit extension through July 15, 2020.<sup>6</sup>

JBS states that there have been delays in completing construction of the Station's post-auction channel facilities resulting from equipment delivery and tower crew delays due in part to restrictions imposed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>7</sup> Given these delays, JBS requests tolling of the Station's construction permit to October 13, 2020.

*Discussion.* Upon review of the facts and circumstances presented, we find that sufficient circumstances exist to waive section 73.3598(b) of the Rules and to toll the expiration date of the Station's construction permit to October 13, 2020.<sup>8</sup> JBS has demonstrated it did not complete construction of its post-auction channel facilities due to construction delays. We also find that grant of JBS's waiver and tolling request is not likely to negatively impact the overall transition schedule and will not cause interference to other stations. WYSJ-CA has already ceased operation on its pre-auction channel and is silent. We believe that JBS has every incentive to ensure viewers are fully informed about the Station's transition plan and when it plans to resume operation. Ultimately, we conclude that the public interest will be served by grant of waiver and tolling of the Station's construction permit.

We remind JBS that pursuant to the Spectrum Act, the Station is eligible for reimbursement from the TV Broadcast Relocation Fund (Fund) of costs "reasonably incurred . . . in order for the licensee to relocate its television service from one channel to the other."<sup>9</sup> Additional expenses incurred, such as expenses resulting from changes in a Station's transition plan that are not related to the post-incentive auction channel change, may not be reimbursable from the Fund.

We further remind JBS that the Commission has stated that the Bureau may announce a deadline for the submission of final expense documentation for reimbursement well before the statutory deadline of July 3, 2023.<sup>10</sup> Thus, we strongly encourage the Station to diligently pursue satisfaction of the current deadlines to improve the chances that there will be sufficient funds available to reimburse the Station for its legitimate repacking expenses, and we encourage JBS to submit eligible invoices as soon as practicable.

The above facts considered, JBS, Inc.'s request for waiver of the Commission's tolling provisions **IS GRANTED**. The construction permit (LMS File No. 0000034756) for WYSJ-CA, Yorktown,

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<sup>5</sup> See LMS File No. 0000117145. WYSJ-CA was repacked from channel 19 to channel 36.

<sup>6</sup> See LMS File Nos. 0000096336.

<sup>7</sup> The World Health Organization has classified COVID-19 as a pandemic and the President declared it a national emergency.

<sup>8</sup> 47 CFR § 73.3598(b).

<sup>9</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 1452(b)(4)(A)(i). See also *Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions*, GN Docket No. 12-268 et. al., Report and Order, 29 FCC Rcd 6567, 6821, para. 622 (2014) (*Incentive Auction R&O*), aff'd, Nat'l Ass'n of Broadcasters v. FCC, 789 F.3d 165 (D.C. Cir. 2015) ("The appropriate scope of 'costs reasonably incurred' necessarily will have to be decided on a case-by-case basis.").

<sup>10</sup> See *id.* at 6567, para. 616; *LPTV, TV Translator, and FM Broadcast Station Reimbursement; Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions*, MB Docket 18-214 and GN Docket No. 12-268, Report and Order, 34 FCC Rcd 1690, 1739, para. 105 (2019). See also *Incentive Auction Task Force and Media Bureau Report on the Status of the Post-Incentive Auction Transition and Reimbursement Program et al.*, MB Docket No. 16-306 and GN Docket No. 12-268, Public Notice, 34 FCC Rcd 304, 312, para. 23 and n.35 (IATF/MB 2019).

Virginia, **IS TOLLED to October 13, 2020**. Grant of this tolling waiver does not permit WYSJ-CA to recommence operation on its pre-auction channel. We also remind JBS that any subsequent requests for tolling of its construction permit deadline will be subject to the Commission's tolling provisions.<sup>11</sup>

Sincerely,

/s/

Barbara A. Kreisman  
Chief, Video Division  
Media Bureau

cc (via electronic mail): David D. Burns, Esq.

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<sup>11</sup> See 47 CFR § 73.3598(b).