

Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

August 16, 2011

1800E1-MRS

WGAL Hearst Television Inc. c/o Brooks, Pierce, et al. P.O. Box 1800 Raleigh, NC 27602

In Re: BDSTA-20110602ACR WGAL Lancaster, PA Fac Id: 53930

Dear Licensee:

This is in response to your request for Experimental Authority, pursuant to Sections 74.102 and 74.131 of the Commission's rules to operate a digital facility with an increased effective radiated power (ERP) for station WGAL. You state that WGAL is licensed to operate post-transition on Channel 8 and is currently operating with a maximum ERP of 32.2 kilowatts (kW) but continues to experience a shortfall in reception. In an effort to mitigate the reception issues, you request experimental authorization to increase WGAL's operating power in order to help restore service to viewers who are having difficulty receiving the station's digital signal.

In support of this request, you state that the reception shortfall was identified by conducting multiple field tests, including a test that was conducted at Walnut Bottom, PA in coordination with the FCC's field office. Furthermore, you state that even with WGAL's current 32.2 kW ERP, viewer complaints continue to persist. Consequently, WGAL proposes to conduct an experimental broadcast with an increased ERP of 59 kW to ascertain whether the power increase will substantially alleviate the reception problems pending further disposition as to how to ameliorate the shortfall coverage issues.

After a review of WGAL's technical specifications, we note that some interference is predicted to be caused to the service area of stations WNJB, channel 8, New Brunswick, NJ and WBPH-TV, channel 9, Bethlehem, PA. However, New Jersey Public Broadcasting Authority, licensee of

WNJB, and Sonshine Family Television, Inc., licensee of WBPH-TV, have agreed to accept additional interference and grant WGAL permission to modify its facilities and conduct technical experimentation with an ERP of 59 kW. Additionally, if any problems from the proposed experimental operation do arise, we expect them to be solved expeditiously and the Bureau reserves the right to require termination of the operation.

The public interest would be served by the grant of this request because the Experimental Authority would facilitate experimentation directed toward improvement of WGAL's high-band VHF signal and may be successful in restoring service to viewers who are experiencing difficulty receiving WGAL programming. Accordingly, we will grant this Experimental Authority to operate at 59 kW for WGAL's digital operations on Channel 8.

With respect to radio frequency radiation (RFR), we expect compliance with Section 1.1307(b) of the Commission's Rules to be achieved.

Accordingly, the request for special temporary authority IS GRANTED subject to the technical parameters and conditions specified below.

Technical Parameters:

Channel: 8

Antenna Coordinates: N. Latitude: 40-02-04

W. Longitude: 76-37-08

Antenna Type: RCA Non-Directional

Model No. TW-9A8-R

Maximum Effective Radiated Power: 59 kW

Radiation Center Above Mean Sea Level: 556.9 meters

Radiation Center Above Ground Level: 239.3 meters

HAAT: 419 meters

Tower Registration Number: 1031756

Special Conditions:

1. The grant of this construction permit is subject to the condition that, with ample time before commencing operation, you make a good faith effort to identify and notify health care facilities (e.g., hospitals, nursing homes, see 47 CFR 15.242(a)(1)) within your service area potentially affected by your DTV operations. Contact with state and/or local hospital

associations and local governmental health care licensing authorities may prove helpful in this process. During this pre-broadcast period, you must provide all notified entities with relevant technical details of your operation, such as DTV Channel, targeted on-air date, effective radiated power, antenna location, and antenna height. You are required to place in the station's public inspection file documentation of the notifications and contacts made and you may not commence operations until good faith efforts have been made to notify affected health care facilities. During this pre-broadcast period and for up to twenty (20) days after commencing operations, should you become aware of any instances of medical devices malfunctioning or that such devices are likely to malfunction due to your DTV operations, you must cooperate with the health care facility so that it is afforded a reasonable opportunity to resolve the interference problem. At such time as all provisions of this condition have been fulfilled, and either upon the expiration of twenty (20) days following commencement of operations or when all known interference problems have been resolved, whichever is later, this condition lapses.

- 2. The facility authorized herein must comply with the FCC's increased DTV coverage requirements specified in Section 73.625(a).
- 3. This authority expires six months from the date of this letter. If appropriate, a timely renewal request must be filed before the end of this period.
- 4. Hours of operation of this facility will be in accordance with Section 73.624(b) of the Commission's Rules.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Kreisman Chief, Video Division

Media Bureau