

Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the matter of	)	
	)	
Request for Extension of Time to	)	
Construct Digital Facilities	)	File No. BEPCDT-20020424ABP
WTJR-DT, Quincy, Illinois	)	ID No. 4593

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

Adopted: August 22, 2002

Released: August 26, 2002

By the Chief, Media Bureau:

1. The Media Bureau (the "Bureau") has before it a petition filed by Believers Broadcasting Corporation ("BBC") seeking reconsideration of the Bureau's June 3, 2002, letter denying its request for an extension of time to construct the digital facilities for WTJR-DT and admonishing BBC for failing to meet the May 1, 2002, construction deadline for DTV facilities. For the reasons stated below, we deny the petition.

2. In its petition, BBC argues that the Bureau erred by not allowing it to follow the same time table for construction as noncommercial educational broadcasters. See 47 C.F.R. 73.624(d). BBC states that it is classified as a tax exempt religious and educational organization and argues, without any supporting authority, that it should therefore be treated the same as a noncommercial educational television operator. We disagree. BBC operates on a nonreserved commercial channel and it never has requested to have the channel allocated as a reserved noncommercial channel. See 47 C.F.R. § 73.606(a). Consequently, BBC must comply with the digital conversion time table established for commercial television broadcast stations.

3. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED, THAT the petition filed by Believers Broadcasting Corporation seeking reconsideration of the Bureau's June 3, 2002, letter denying its request for an extension of time to construct the digital facilities for WTJR-DT and admonishing Believers Broadcasting Corporation for failing to meet the May 1, 2002, construction deadline for DTV facilities IS DENIED.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

W. Kenneth Ferree  
Chief, Media Bureau