Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov TTY: 1-888-835-5322

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MEDIA BUREAU RECEIVES REQUEST BY ANALOG TELEVISION STATION IN THE UPPER 700 MHZ BAND TO CEASE ANALOG BROADCASTING, SURRENDER NTSC LICENSE, AND OPERATE AS A SINGLE CHANNEL, DIGITAL-ONLY TELEVISION STATION

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 directed the Commission to reallocate the 746-806 MHz band (encompassing broadcast channels 60-69) for public safety and commercial use. Accordingly, in 1998, the Commission designated Channels 60-62 and 65-67 for commercial use, and Channels 63, 64, 68 and 69 for the exclusive use of public safety. Until the end of the digital television transition, however, broadcasters are entitled to remain on these channels and be protected from harmful interference. In 2000, the Commission described how it would review, on a case-by-case basis, requests by incumbent broadcasters on channels 60-69 to voluntarily vacate their NTSC channels prior to the end of the DTV transition.

The Media Bureau has received a request from Living Faith Ministries, Inc., the licensee of analog television station WLFG-TV, NTSC Channel 68, and permittee of digital television station WLJC-DT, DTV Channel 49, Grundy, Virginia,⁵ for Commission authority to: (i) cease analog broadcasting on NTSC Channel 68 and surrender its license for the channel prior to the end of the DTV transition; and (ii) thereafter operate WLFG-DT as a single channel, digital-only television station on DTV Channel 49.

¹ See 47 U.S.C. §337(a) (directing the Commission to allocate 24 MHz of spectrum to public safety and 36 MHz for commercial services).

² Reallocation Report and Order, 12 FCC Rcd 22953 (1998), recon., 13 FCC Rcd 21578 (1998).

³ See 47 U.S.C. §337(d)-(e).

⁴ Service Rules for the 746-764 and 776-794 MHz Bands, and Revisions to Part 27 of the Commission's Rules, WT Docket No. 99-168 et al., Memorandum Opinion and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 15 FCC Rcd 20845, 20868-72 (2000).

⁵ Facility ID No 37808.

This request is available for inspection at the Commission's Reference Center, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554, and may also be accessed on the FCC's website at www.fcc.gov/mb/video/tv.html.

For further information, contact Joyce Bernstein of the Media Bureau, Video Division at (202) 418-1647.

By: Chief, Media Bureau

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