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November 2, 2016

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Via Overnight Delivery

Attention: Video Division

Re: WCVB-TV (Fac. ID No. 65684) – Notification of Use of Emergency Antenna

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of WCVB Hearst Television Inc. (“WCVB”) licensee of WCVB-TV, Boston, Massachusetts, this letter shall serve as notification to the Commission, pursuant to Rule Section 73.1680, that WCVB-TV has commenced use of a temporary emergency antenna in order to restore and maintain WCVB’s service to the public.

WCVB operates from a complex antenna structure that is configured for operations for multiple Boston-area television stations. On October 22, 2016, WCVB experienced a transmission line and upper antenna failure causing the station to temporarily move its operations to its auxiliary antenna, which is on the same tower (ASR #1003433).

Repair crews have been scheduled to commence work on the shared transmission line and upper antenna, which will necessitate all stations to move to an emergency antenna that has been installed on the same tower. At approximately 3 pm today (November 2), WCVB (and other stations on the tower) will move their operations to the temporary emergency antenna (Dielectric Antenna TUA6-R001 TUA-O4-2/8U-1-S), which has been installed at 990 feet (301.75 meters) AGL. WCVB will operate with an ERP of only 32 kW. It is anticipated that this emergency antenna will be in use for only a short period of time, perhaps as little as a week or less. The crews will work as safely and quickly as they can to repair the shared transmission line and antenna to allow WCVB (and other stations) to restore its regular, licensed operations.

Should the temporary emergency antenna remain in use for longer than anticipated, WCVB will file a request for STA via CDBS.

If any questions should arise during your consideration of this matter, it is respectfully requested that you communicate directly with this office.

Sincerely,

Stephen Hartzell
Counsel to WCVB Hearst Television Inc.