



0285-EX-ST-1999
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September 6, 1999

Ms. Magalie M. Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Experimental Radio Service
P. O. Box 358320
Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5320

Re: Request for Special Temporary Authorization for an
Experimental License on an Expedited Basis,
Requested Authorization Date: September 10, 1999

Attn: Douglas Young
Office of Engineering and Technology

Dear Mr. Young:

COMSAT Corporation herein requests the Commission to grant a Special Temporary Authority (STA) license, on an expedited basis, to operate four (4) small Ku-band earth stations at the INTELSAT Headquarters Building in Washington, D.C. These earth stations are part of a non-commercial and non-revenue-producing operation that will conduct experimental testing on interactive satellite services in the Ku-band. The demonstration system consists of a 6.1m Ku-band hub station, for which COMSAT already has received a FCC license to operate, and up to four small Ku-band earth stations which are the subject of this application.

Please note that an original STA license was granted on September 4, 1998 for these four earth stations, which expired on February 1, 1999. A second STA, granted on February 1, 1999, expired on August 1, 1999. On July 26, 1999, COMSAT applied for a 2-year license to continue testing and service demonstration actions of the demonstration system described in the original STA license. This application is currently pending before the Commission.

Therefore, until grant of this underlying 2-year application, COMSAT respectfully requests the Commission to grant a new STA license with an expiration date of February 1, 2000. An original and four copies of this application for STA extension, and a check in the amount of \$45.00, to cover the requisite filing fee, are attached. Particulars in support of this request are set forth in


File No. 0023-EX-ST-1999, (Call Sign WA9XBW). To date, the four Ku-band earth stations have provided reliable experimental testing and there have been no reports of interference to other radio communications facilities due to the conducting of these experiments. Continuation of these experiments will serve the public interest by demonstrating the utility of these antennas in the provision of Ku-band service to users.

Grant of this request will not have a significant environmental impact and, thus, does not require an Environmental Statement under Section 1.1307 of the Commission's Rules. Nor is the authorization sought herein to be used in fulfilling the requirements of a government contract with an agency of the United States Government. In addition, COMSAT certifies that neither the applicant nor any other party to this application is subject to a denial of Federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C Section 853a.

Accordingly, COMSAT respectfully submits that the public interest would be served by extension of the requested experimental authorization for up to an additional six months until February 1, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

COMSAT CORPORATION

By: 
Robert A. Mansbach
Its Attorney

Attachment

cc: Carl Huie
James Turtle