

Public Interest Statement

I. Introduction

By the instant application (“Application”), DRS Sustainment Systems, Inc. (“DRS Sustainment Systems”) requests that the Commission re-grant a Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) to permit DRS Sustainment Systems to operate the facilities specified in the instant application.

Extended operation of the requested facilities is anticipated at this time to be required only for six months from the expiration date of DRS Sustainment Systems’ existing STA (*see* File No. 1408-EX-ST-2016), with an end date of December 12, 2017. Accordingly, issuance of an STA extension is appropriate pursuant to Commission rules and policies.

II. Purpose of the Operation

DRS Sustainment Systems is part of DRS Technologies, headquartered in Arlington, Virginia. Focused on defense technology, DRS Technologies develops, manufactures, and supports a broad range of systems for mission critical and military sustainment requirements, as well as homeland security. DRS Sustainment Systems is a recognized world leader in the integration of complex technologies into legacy systems and platforms for global military and commercial customers globally. DRS has provided the U.S. Army’s fire support service systems since 1982, and has grown to become the premier supplier globally for battlefield surveillance systems. Proven tactical radar systems increase situational awareness and security in a broad range of integrated and stand-alone applications ranging from micro UAV detection, to personnel detection, to airborne terrain following radar. Expert at battlefield subsystems integration, DRS is teamed with several global strategic partners to bring critical technologies, such as vehicle active protection and advanced medium and large caliber lethality systems, to the U.S. customer.

The equipment covered by this STA does not have the capability to transmit its call sign at the end of each transmission. Accordingly, a continued waiver of the Station ID rules as set forth in Section 5.115 of the Commission’s rules is respectfully requested.

Confidential information regarding the purpose and nature of the experiment covered by the STA, as well as the particular transmitting equipment, was provided to the Commission as Confidential Exhibit 3 to the original STA request (*see* File No. 0173-EX-ST-2016).

III. Prevention of Interference

DRS Sustainment Systems is well aware of its obligations under Part 5 of the Commission’s rules to avoid interference to co-channel licenses in non-experimental services, and will take all steps to ensure compliance with its obligation. With respect to interference migration, DRS Sustainment Systems understands that FAA (or other stakeholders) may require certain limited azimuth and/or elevation blanking in order to ensure that the facilities covered by the STA do not pose a threat of interference to adjacent emitters. Accordingly, this is to confirm that the subject radar device has the capability to inhibit radiation from specific azimuth sectors, and that

DRS Sustainment Systems stands ready to work with the FAA to identify any reasonable necessary azimuth restrictions for the system.

IV. Stop Buzzer

DRS Sustainment Systems advises that the following individual will be available via telephone, and will act as a “stop buzzer” if any issues regarding interference arise during testing:

Rusty Jennings – (314) 553-4042

For the foregoing reasons, DRS Sustainment Systems respectfully submits that approval of this Application is in the public interest, convenience, and necessity.