

HNS License Sub, LLC
FCC Form 442 - Application for Extension of STA
Attachment A – Question 7: Description of Application
Date: October 6, 2006

Attachment A

HNS License Sub, LLC (“HNS”) hereby submits this application for extension of its existing experimental special temporary authorization, call sign WC9XET. WC9XET will continue to be used for the purpose of domestic U.S. testing, demonstration and training operations of up to two mobile terminals using the Ku-band, and Ka-band frequencies as previously authorized.

Background

On June 3, 2005 the FCC granted HNS’ application for an experimental special temporary authorization, call sign WC9XET (0207-EX-ST-2005), permitting HNS to operate satellite terminals mounted on a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (“HMMWV”) using Ku-band frequencies. On October 27, 2005, the FCC granted HNS’ application (0573-EXST-2005) to modify station WC9XET to include operations on Ka-band frequencies as well.

The HMMWV test vehicles were developed by General Dynamics as advanced communications resources for the US Department of Defense (DOD).¹ The test vehicles are equipped with a 60 cm antenna, a 15 watt amplifier, the accompanying baseband equipment and an automatic pointing system. As explained in HNS’ original and modified applications for WC9XET, HNS sought an experimental STA in response to DOD requirements for the development of small, high throughput terminals that can be used by military commanders for command, control communications, computers and intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR).

On January 30, 2006 HNS filed an application (0011-EX-PL-2006) requesting permission to operate its experimental facilities pursuant to a two-year experimental license, rather than an STA. On March 31, 2006, HNS filed an application (0224-EX-ST-2006) requesting a six-month extension of its existing Experimental STA, pending the FCC’s grant of the application for a two-year experimental license. The extension of the existing Experimental STA was granted on April 10, 2006.

Requested Action

By this application, HNS requests a six-month extension of its existing Experimental STA, beginning at 3:00 am on October 10, 2006, pending the FCC’s grant

¹ General Dynamics’ experimental license application, OET file number 0640-EX-ST-2004, granted 11/24/2004, Call Sign WC9XAP.

of its application for a two-year experimental license. No changes in the technical parameters of the new license are proposed from those previously authorized under WC9XET.² The mobile terminals will continue to be operated in conjunction with the HNS VSAT hub located in Germantown, MD, which is licensed by the FCC under call sign E000166. While the E000166 hub is licensed to provide VSAT service in the U.S. on multiple spacecraft, the test of these mobile terminals will be limited to either Galaxy 10-R satellite located at 123.0 degrees West Longitude or SATMEX-5 located at 116.8 degrees West Longitude. HNS expects to continue to conduct testing of the prototype terminals at the same limited number of controlled test ranges identified in its current STA.

As a final note, pursuant to 0022-EX-TC-2006, granted June 28, 2006, the name of the applicant for the STA extension request is now HNS License Sub, LLC, and not Hughes Network Systems, sub LLC. The Commissions records for the subject STA should be updated to reflect this transfer.

Grant of this application would allow HNS to continue the development of small, high throughput terminals required by the DOD and that can be used by the U.S. military for command, control communications, computers and intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR).

² See HNS' Experimental STA applications, OET file numbers 0207-EX-ST-2005 and 0573-EX-ST-20005, for a complete technical showing.