

Request for Special Temporary Authority

Iridium Satellite LLC (“Iridium”) seeks special temporary authority (“STA”) for a period of one hundred and eighty (180) days, beginning March 2, 2021, and ending August 29, 2021, to transmit from its space stations to the Veery-RL1 low-Earth orbit 1U cubesat operated by Care Weather Technologies (“Care Weather”) in the 1618.725–1626.5 MHz band,¹ in the manner described below.

Care Weather has applied for a companion application for experimental authority for the Veery-RL1 cubesat.² The Veery-RL1 mission will perform orbital testing and validation of the custom satellite computing, power, and avionics electronics developed by Care Weather. The proposed experimentation will enable Care Weather to develop U.S. weather remote sensing capabilities that will be integrated with its satellite-based wind-sensing radar system.

The Veery-RL1 communications subsystem includes an Iridium 9603 satellite modem. The Veery-RL1 satellite will use this modem to relay communications via the Iridium system to Care Weather mission control.

As set forth in Care Weather’s experimental STA request, the Veery-RL1 is flying in the Maxwell dispenser on a Rocket Labs Electron launch vehicle. This launch will take place at the Rocket Labs Mahia, New Zealand launch site, and Care Weather has already submitted a space payload application in accordance with New Zealand regulations.

As stated above, Iridium asks that the term of its STA commence on March 2, 2021. To accommodate the spacecraft launch integrator’s requirements, however, Iridium respectfully requests that its STA request be granted no later than February 15, 2021.

There will be no change during the experiment in the operating parameters of Iridium’s space stations. For this reason, no operating parameters, other than effective radiated power and an emission designator, are shown in the form that this exhibit accompanies. The only change for which Iridium seeks an STA is adding Veery-RL1 as a point of communication. Iridium’s Part 25 space station license does not cover space-to-space communications.

¹ Iridium’s constellation licensed under Callsign S2110 is comprised of 66 satellites, any one of which may be used as part of the experiment at any point in time.

² Care Weather has applied for experimental STA for launch and operation of the cubesat under OET File No. 1840-EX-ST-2020.