

Request for Special Temporary Authority

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (“NTIA”) has authorized the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (“NASA”) to conduct experiments with the Technical Educational Satellite -5 (“TechEdSat 5”) low earth orbit nanosatellite. A copy of that authorization is attached hereto.

NASA will operate an Iridium satellite phone that it will host on TechEdSat-5. The satellite phone will transmit from TechEdSat-5 to space stations in Iridium’s “Big LEO” constellation.¹ The transmissions are part of an experiment that, among other goals, will utilize Iridium’s constellation as a tracking and data relay satellite (“TDRS”) for nanosatellites.

Iridium hereby requests special temporary authority (“STA”), in connection with the experiment, to transmit from its space stations to TechEdSat-5 in the 1618.725–1626.5 MHz band. The technical characteristics of these transmissions will be identical to the technical characteristic of Iridium’s already-licensed space station transmissions in the 1618.725–1626.5 MHz band.²

Iridium’s space station constellation is licensed under Call Sign S2110. Because Iridium will be operating under the requested STA in accordance with the parameters of its license, no operating parameters, other than effective radiated power, were used in the form that this exhibit accompanies. The only change from Iridium’s licensed operations is that Iridium will be adding the TechEdSat-5 as a point of communication. Iridium’s space station license does not cover intersatellite communications in the 1618.725–1626.5 MHz band.

It is anticipated that TechEdSat-5 will be in orbit for a maximum of thirty (30) days. However, because of current uncertainty as to when the experiment will begin, Iridium is seeking authority herein to cover the period shown in the STA form.

¹ The Form 442 that this narrative accompanies states that two satellite phone units will be used. This statement reflects the fact that there will be a primary unit and a back-up unit. But only a single unit will be operational at any given time.

² Iridium’s constellation is comprised of 66 satellites, any one of which may be used as part of the experiment at any point in time.