

PUBLIC INTEREST STATEMENT

By the instant application (“Application”), Leidos, Inc. (“Leidos”) requests that the Commission grant a 2 year conventional experimental license to permit Leidos to operate the facilities specified in the instant application.

1. Purpose of Operation

The license requested by this Application – a continuation of the prior granted STA issued under call sign WK9XRX (File No. 1708-EX-ST-2016) - will support Leidos’ integration, testing and fielding various radio systems into multiple aircraft that are directly supporting the warfighter in combat zones worldwide. The contract for the building of ISR aircraft for our Government customer has been modified to include additional aircraft. The grant is also necessary for follow on testing and troubleshooting once the builds are completed.

These radios, in conjunction with amplifiers are capable of transmitting at a maximum of 50 Watts ERP from omnidirectional antennas both on the ground and on the aircraft. The transmitting equipment is highly capable and multi-use, and capable of many forms of communication although Leidos’ primary use for this experiment will be for analog voice communication. The intended purpose of this experiment is to provide reliable ground to aircraft and aircraft to aircraft voice communications, pursuant to government contract requirements.

Waiver of the Station ID rules set forth at Section 5.115 is respectfully requested.

The applicable government contract information is as follows;

Customer/Agency: US Army
Contract No.: W911QX-16-C-0012
Contract POC: William Morse; (256) 955-3678
william.r.morse4.ctr@mail.mil

Customer/Agency: US Army
Contract No.: W15P7T-10-D-D420/0007
Contract POC: Dave Tattoli CIV US ARMY PEO IEWS:
david.m.tattoli.civ@mail.mil
Phone: 443-861-1937 BB: 443-910-7191

Customer/Agency: US Army
Contract No.: CRN315177W909MY-15-C-0031
Contract POC: C Herdlick, Monika, PM monika.a.herdlick.civ@mail.smil.mil
Phone: 703-704-0254

A. Ground-Based Transmissions

Temporary fixed ground-based operations within 1 km radius around the test area center point coordinates at: 38°22'00" N; 78°57'37"W.

B. Airborne Transmissions

Mobile airborne transmissions conducted within a flight pattern centered on the test area center point at 38°22'00" N; 78°57'37"W, with the furthest waypoints lying on a radius of 128km about the center point. The maximum flight ceiling planned is 4572 m (15,000 feet) above ground level (AGL) (range will be from 14,000-15,000 ft). Ground elevation above sea level at the center point coordinates is 355.1m at this location. The nearest airport to the center point coordinates is the Bridgewater Airpark (VBW), within 1 km from the center point coordinates.

2. Prevention of Interference

Leidos is well aware of its obligations under Part 5 of the Commission's rules to avoid interference to co-channel licensees in non-experimental services, and will take all steps to ensure compliance with this obligation. In this regard, the requested transmissions will not be continuous, but rather very limited. Specifically:

- At any given time Leidos will only be transmitting for a maximum of 10 seconds to conduct a bi-directional voice check of the radio.
- The testing protocol requires Leidos to cycle through a range of frequencies in order to test the operational parameters of the radio as well as check for any EMI that may be caused by the radios transmission. Once the range is tested, all transmissions will cease.
- Leidos estimates an average block of testing to last no longer than 2 hours per test cycle.

3. Stop Buzzers

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