

Orbital Sciences Corporation Request to Modify STA Special Condition

Orbital Sciences Corporation (“Orbital”) respectfully requests modification of Special Condition (12) on experimental Special Temporary Authority (STA) WO9XDR, FCC File No. 1465-EX-ST-2019, to allow operation for an additional 31 days. All other parameters and conditions of the license would remain unchanged.

Special Condition (12) limits the spacecraft time in orbit to 31 days after International Space Station (ISS) departure or April 12, 2020, whichever occurs first. The recent Cygnus NG-13 spacecraft launch delays impacted the on-orbit checkout of the experimental Lynk Payload flying on the NG-12 spacecraft. Due to the on-orbit checkout impacts, Orbital Sciences received a request from the payload developer, SEOPS LLC, to extend the Cygnus NG-12 mission time in orbit to 62 days after its departure from the ISS. The additional NG-12 spacecraft time in orbit will be in direct support of the Lynk Payload on-orbit checkout.

The NG-12 mission extension is supported by NASA. Additionally, NASA will provide TDRS and NEN (Wallops) communications network support for the Lynk Payload on-orbit checkout. The level of TDRS and NEN coverage is expected to be at the same level as the past two weeks of the NG-12 mission.

Accordingly, Orbital Sciences Corporation submits this application to request modification of the second sentence in Special Condition (12) to specify 62 days. The second sentence then would read: “This STA will expire at Cygnus separation from the ISS + 62 days or 12 April 2020, whichever occurs first.”

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