

Exhibit A

FCC Form 703: Description of Application

On December 19, 2003, the Commission granted consent to the transfer of control over the Commission licenses and authorizations held by The DIRECTV Group, Inc., formerly, Hughes Electronics Corporation (“Hughes”),¹ and its wholly- or majority-owned subsidiaries, to The News Corporation Limited (“News Corp.”).² The parties consummated the transaction on December 22, 2003.³ On April 9, 2004, the Commission issued a Supplemental Order to clarify that the approval for the transfer of control of licenses and authorizations from Hughes to News Corp. includes authority to transfer the authorization that is the subject of this application, which was granted to Hughes Network Systems, Inc., a subsidiary of Hughes, during the interim period between the filing of the applications and the release of the Supplemental Order.⁴ Therefore, this filing is being made as a formality in order to update the Experimental Licensing database.

¹On March 16, 2004, Hughes Electronics Corporation changed its name to “The DIRECTV Group, Inc.” See Letter from William M. Wiltshire and Michael D. Nilsson, Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis LLP, Counsel for The DIRECTV Group, Inc., to Marlene Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission (Mar. 16, 2004).

² See *Subject to Conditions, Commission Approves Transaction Between General Motors Corporation, Hughes Electronics Corporation and The News Corporation Limited*, Public Notice, 18 FCC Rcd 26512 (2003). See also, *General Motors Corporation, Hughes Electronics Corporation, and The News Corporation Limited*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, MB Docket No. 03-124, 19 FCC Rcd 473 (2004).

³ See Letter from William M. Wiltshire and Michael D. Nilsson, Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis LLP, Counsel for News Corp., to Marlene Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission (Dec. 23, 2003).

⁴ See *General Motors Corporation, Hughes Electronics Corporation and The News Corporation Limited*, MB Docket No. 03-124, Supplemental Order, DA 04-961 (rel. Apr. 9, 2004).