

Exhibit A

Pursuant to Section 5.61 of the Commission's rules, XM Radio Inc. ("XM") hereby requests a 180-day extension of its existing Special Temporary Authority ("STA") to test Wireless Communications Service ("WCS") base stations using WCS C-block (2315-2320 MHz) and D-block (2345-2350 MHz) frequencies at the sites listed herein in Las Vegas, Nevada. *See* File No. 0625-EX-ST-2005 (Call Sign WC9XIL). WCS Wireless License Subsidiary, LLC ("WCS Wireless"), the licensee of these frequencies in Las Vegas, has consented to this experimental operation.¹

XM's current STA authorizing operation of these WCS base stations in Las Vegas will expire on May 12, 2006. On this date, XM has filed for a two-year experimental license to conduct these experimental operations pursuant to the same technical parameters listed in its existing STA. *See* File No. 0208-EX-PL-2006. Pursuant to Section 5.61(b) of the Commission's rules, XM's timely filed experimental license application enables XM to continue operations in accordance with the terms and conditions of its existing STA pending disposition of the experimental license application. 47 C.F.R. § 5.61(b).

The base stations will operate in compliance with the Commission's rules governing WCS base station operations, with the exception of Section 27.50(a)(1) which limits WCS base stations to 2 kW peak equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP). 47 C.F.R. § 27.50(a)(1). The base stations to be tested pursuant to this STA will operate at a maximum of 2 kW average, rather than peak, EIRP. WCS Wireless currently has pending a request for a waiver of Section 27.50(a)(1) of the Commission's rules to operate WCS base stations at average rather than peak EIRP.² The Office of Engineering and Technology ("OET") has granted STAs to XM and WCS Wireless to conduct similar tests in the Dallas, Texas area.³

The purpose of this experimental operation is to further design, develop, and test a WCS network in the Las Vegas area using base stations operating at a maximum of 2 kW average EIRP. The tests will include field-test measurements of design techniques through measurements of installed system performance. Among other things, in-field experimental tests will allow for validation and optimization of terrestrial signal-processing techniques. Testing will assess channel characterization, including multi-path characteristics, to assist in establishing and validating propagation and channel models. This experimental operation is a critical part of

¹ XM is the prospective transferee of the WCS licenses held by WCS Wireless. *See* Application, ULS File No. 0002240823 (filed July 15, 2005). XM understands that grant of this experimental STA request is without prejudice to the Commission's consideration of the pending transfer application.

² *See Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comment on WCS Wireless, LLC Request for Waiver of Section 27.50(a), Public Notice*, DA 05-1662 (June 15, 2005). XM understands that grant of this experimental STA request is without prejudice to the Commission's consideration of the pending waiver request.

³ *See* File No. 0205-EX-PL-2004 (Call Sign WD2XLJ); File No. 0185-EX-ST-2006 (Call Sign WB2XCA).

the planning required to design and develop a WCS network in advance of the Commission's July 2007 substantial service deadline for WCS licensees. See 47 C.F.R. § 27.14(a).