

**Hughes Network Systems
11717 Exploration Lane
Germantown, Maryland 20876**

ORIGINAL

June 6, 2001

Federal Communications Commission
Experimental Radio Services
P.O. Box 358320
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15251-5320

Re: Hughes Network Systems, a division of Hughes Electronics Corporation
Request for Extension of Experimental Special Temporary Authorization
Call Sign WB2XIX/ File No. 0537-EX-ST-2000

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Hughes Network Systems, a division of Hughes Electronics Corporation ("HNS")¹ hereby requests an extension of the Experimental Special Temporary Authorization ("STA") by which HNS is conducting testing and link measurements of prototype satellite equipment at its San Diego, California facility. HNS requests the extension for an additional 180 days through and including December 5, 2001.

On December 8, 2000, the Commission granted HNS an STA (FCC File No. 0537-EX-ST-2000) for a period of 180 days through and including June 8, 2001. A copy of that STA grant is attached hereto. The STA authorized HNS to perform testing and link measurements of prototype satellite equipment intended for export, with the technical parameters described in the STA.

Pursuant to the STA, HNS conducts over-the-air testing of a handheld terminal for the Thuraya Satellite System. The over-the-air capability permits HNS to test the phone as it will be used in an actual environment. HNS performs system verification tests of the end-to-end operation of the phone, including the man-machine interface ("MMI"), beam selection, idle mode behavior, high penetration alerting, and voice quality.

Grant of the extension of this STA will serve the public interest by facilitating HNS's continued ability to confirm the operation of the Thuraya handheld terminal as it will be used in an over-the-air handheld environment. The extension also will permit HNS to validate upcoming releases for development completion and for MMI enhancements.

¹ See Attachment 1.

Enclosed is a check payable to the Federal Communications Commission in the amount of \$50.00 to cover the requisite filing fee, and an FCC Remittance Advice Form 159. If there are any questions about this request please contact Dori K. Bailey, counsel for Hughes, at (202) 637-1006.

Hughes certifies that neither Hughes, nor any of the officers or directors of Hughes, nor any other party to this application, is subject to a denial of federal benefits that includes FCC benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. §862, because of a conviction for possession or distribution of a controlled substance.

For all of the foregoing reasons, HNS respectfully requests that the Commission grant the extension of the Experimental Special Temporary Authority described above.

Respectfully submitted,

Hughes Network Systems,
a division of Hughes Electronics
Corporation



By: Joslyn Read
Title: Assistant Vice President,
Regulatory & International
Affairs, HNS

Enclosures

Hughes Network Systems
Extension of STA
Call Sign WB2XIX
Attachment 1

Since the time of the last filing related to this station, Hughes Network Systems, Inc. has changed its name to Hughes Electronics Corporation, as a result of the merger of Hughes Electronics Corporation with and into its wholly owned subsidiary, Hughes Network Systems, Inc., with Hughes Network Systems, Inc. as the survivor of the merger. The business operations of Hughes Network Systems, Inc. have been continued under the name "Hughes Network Systems." The ultimate parent of Hughes Electronics Corporation remains General Motors Corporation.