

Public Interest Statement

By the instant application (“STA Request”), Leidos, Inc. (“Leidos”) requests that the Commission grant Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) to permit near-term operation of the facilities specified herein.

The Commission recently granted a very brief STA to Leidos under call sign WJ9XUO (File No. 0581-EX-ST-2016) for this experiment. The End Date of that STA is May 31, 2016.

This STA Request seeks a new, additional, brief STA period to slightly expand the time period for operation of this experiment, from May 31, 2016 until July 31, 2016.

While the period under the existing WJ9XUO grant was originally anticipated to be sufficient to complete the testing, the Norfolk Southern railroad has requested an expanded period of opportunity for the experiment to allow them to select a freight train that is traveling over the intended route and to ensure that there is enough technical and operational flexibility to complete the test. Although the actual experiment is expected to take less than one week of time, the railroad is not yet sure exactly when the experiment will occur since it is dependent on mounting the experimental equipment on a freight train of opportunity. Accordingly, Leidos seeks this STA to allow for a brief additional time period of operations between May 31-July 31, 2016.

1. Purpose of Operation

Leidos has developed a next generation radio for the railroads. The radio prototype has been tested at the Transportation Technology Center (TTC) in Pueblo, CO in a remote location on test tracks. TTC and Norfolk Southern railroad want to perform tests on an operational track in Virginia to assess the ability to send information between the front of the train and the end of the train. The prototype radio is not FCC certified. We are seeking a STA. If the test are successful, we will start the certification process.

TTC and Norfolk Southern want to assess performance in an operational environment (with canyons, tunnels, etc.) TTC and Norfolk Southern want to assess performance in an operational environment (with canyons, tunnels, etc.) The test will be run within the 450 MHz railroad frequency allocation. The maximum transmit output power is two watts.

A waiver of the Station ID requirements of 47 CFR §5.115(a) is respectfully requested.

2. Area of Operations

As was described in the original STA Request for WJ9XUO, the area of operations is specified as “On a train from Norfolk, VA to Elmore, VA”. The route is depicted as follows:



3. Stop Buzzer

Leidos is well aware of its obligation under Commission rules to immediately terminate operation in the event of interference to any other licensed emitter. Leidos is a long-standing Commission licensee and the company will take any and all actions to ensure that it complies with its obligations as a licensee of experimental facilities.

The Stop Buzzer in the event of interference is:

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