

Before the  
**Federal Communications Commission**  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of

Intelsat License LLC

Amendment to Application for  
Modification of Authority for  
Galaxy 11 (S2253)

File Nos. SAT-AMD-2014\_\_\_\_\_  
SAT-MOD-20121018-00184

**AMENDMENT TO PENDING APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION OF  
AUTHORITY FOR GALAXY 11**

Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”), pursuant to Section 25.116 of the Federal Communications Commission’s (“FCC” or “Commission”) rules,<sup>1</sup> hereby amends the above captioned modification application seeking authority to relocate the Galaxy 11 satellite (call sign S2253), and to operate the satellite at 44.8° W.L. In addition to seeking authority to relocate Galaxy 11 to 44.8° W.L., Intelsat seeks interim authority to operate the Galaxy 11 satellite at 55.6° W.L. Intelsat also seeks to extend the license term for the Galaxy 11 satellite—and extend all previously granted waivers—for approximately four years through January 2019, which is the current projected end of service life of the satellite.

In support of this request, Intelsat attaches hereto a Schedule S and Engineering Statement for the proposed interim operations at 55.6° W.L. All other information provided in the pending modification application remains unchanged and is incorporated herein by

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<sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 25.116.

reference.<sup>2</sup> In accordance with the requirements of Section 25.116(e) of the Commission's rules,<sup>3</sup> this amendment is being filed electronically as an attachment to FCC Form 312.

**I. REQUEST FOR INTERIM AUTHORITY TO OPERATE GALAXY 11 AT 55.6° W.L. PRIOR TO ITS RELOCATION TO 44.8° W.L.**

Intelsat has a pending modification application to operate the Galaxy 11 satellite at the 44.8° W.L. orbital location<sup>4</sup> and is currently operating the satellite at 55.6° W.L. pursuant to special temporary authority.<sup>5</sup> At its current location Galaxy 11 is collocated with Intelsat 805, which operates at 55.5° W.L.<sup>6</sup> Intelsat originally planned to operate Intelsat 27 as a replacement satellite at 55.5° W.L., yet Intelsat 27's failure to launch successfully in February 2013 delayed the redeployment of Galaxy 11 in order to protect continuity of service to consumers from the nominal 55.5° W.L. orbital location. Following that unanticipated event, Intelsat notified the Commission that Galaxy 11's redeployment to 44.8° W.L. would be postponed until the second

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<sup>2</sup> See *Policy Branch Information; Satellite Space Applications Accepted for Filing*, Report No. SAT-00918, File No. SAT-MOD-20121018-00184 (Dec. 14, 2012) (Public Notice).

<sup>3</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 25.116(e).

<sup>4</sup> See *Policy Branch Information; Satellite Space Applications Accepted for Filing*, Report No. SAT-00918, File No. SAT-MOD-20121018-00184 (Dec. 14, 2012) (Public Notice).

<sup>5</sup> See *Intelsat License LLC, Request for Further Extension of Special Temporary Authority*, File No. SAT-STA-20140310-00029 (filed March 10, 2014); *Policy Branch Information; Actions Taken*, Report No. SAT-00979, File No. SAT-STA-20130829-00109 (Nov. 8, 2013) (Public Notice); *Policy Branch Information; Actions Taken*, Report No. SAT-00934, File No. SAT-STA-20130102-00001 (Mar. 1, 2013) (Public Notice).

<sup>6</sup> *Applications of Intelsat LLC for Authority to Operate and Further Construct, Launch, and Operate C-Band and Ku-Band Satellites that Form a Global Communications System in Geostationary Orbit*, 15 FCC Rcd 15460, 15529 (Appendix C) (2000) (Memorandum Opinion and Order and Authorization), *recon. denied*, 15 FCC Rcd 25234 (2000) (Order on Reconsideration).

half of 2015.<sup>7</sup> Intelsat now plans to replace Galaxy 11 and Intelsat 805 at 55.5° W.L. with Intelsat 34, which is scheduled for launch in the third quarter of 2015.<sup>8</sup> With this application, Intelsat requests interim authority to operate the Galaxy 11 satellite at 55.6° W.L. prior to its relocation to 44.8° W.L. Nothing in this amendment application modifies Intelsat's request for permanent authority to operate Galaxy 11 at 44.8° W.L.

Intelsat seeks interim authority to help to ensure the safe station-keeping of Galaxy 11 with the neighboring Intelsat 805 satellite. At 55.6° W.L., Intelsat will continue to operate Galaxy 11 in the 13750 – 14500 MHz, 10950 – 11200 MHz, and 11700 – 12200 MHz frequency bands and will provide TT&C using the 14000.5 MHz, 14498.5 MHz, 11701 MHz, and 11702 MHz frequencies.<sup>9</sup>

## **II. REQUEST FOR WAIVERS**

Intelsat requests that the waiver of Sections 25.114(d)(14)(ii) and 25.283(c) previously granted to the Galaxy 11 spacecraft for the 304.5° E.L. orbital location continue to apply while the satellite is temporarily located at the interim 55.6° W.L. orbital location.<sup>10</sup> These rules require that spacecraft are able to vent all pressurized systems at end of life.

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<sup>7</sup> See Letter from Susan H. Crandall, Intelsat License LLC, to Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, FCC, File No. SAT-MOD-20121018-00184 (Mar. 14, 2013).

<sup>8</sup> *Application for Authority to Launch and Operate Intelsat 34, A Replacement Satellite with New Frequencies, at 55.5° W.L.*, File No. SAT-LOA-20140114-00005 (filed Jan. 14, 2014).

<sup>9</sup> Although Galaxy 11 has a C-band payload, Intelsat is not seeking authority to operate the C-band frequencies at 55.6° W.L.

<sup>10</sup> For operation of the Galaxy 11 satellite at 55.5° W.L. Intelsat received waivers of Sections 25.114(d)(14)(ii) and 25.283(c) of the Commission's rules. *Intelsat License LLC Application to Modify its Authority and Operate Galaxy 11 at 55.5° W.L.*, File No. SAT-MOD-20101102-00229 (filed Nov. 2, 2010; corrected stamp grant Apr. 7, 2011).

In addition, Intelsat requests waiver of Section 25.114(d)(3), which requires submission of the coverage map of the satellite's beam pattern in a certain format.<sup>11</sup> Under Section 1.3 of the Commission's rules, the Commission has authority to waive its rules "for good cause shown." Good cause exists if "special circumstances warrant a deviation from the general rule and such deviation will serve the public interest" better than adherence to the general rule. In determining whether waiver is appropriate, the Commission should "take into account considerations of hardship, equity, or more effective implementation of overall policy." As shown below, there is good cause for the requested technical waiver.

Intelsat requests a waiver of Section 25.114(d)(3), which requires that the space station antenna gain contour(s) for each transmit and receive antenna beam be plotted on an area map at 2 dB intervals down to 10 dB below peak value of the parameter and at 5 dB intervals between 10 dB and 20 dB below peak values. As explained more fully in the attached Engineering Statement, Intelsat requests a waiver of Section 25.114(d)(3) with respect to Galaxy 11's TT&C bicone and pipe antennas and ULPC global horn antenna. The satellite manufacturer does not provide the beam patterns in the required form. Intelsat provides a descriptive characterization of these beams on pages 2 and 3 of the Engineering Statement. To the extent necessary, there is good cause to waive Section 25.114(d)(3) because in this case Intelsat's descriptive characterization, coupled with the beam patterns provided by the manufacturer, fulfill the informational requirements of Section 25.114(d)(3). In addition, granting the requested waiver would be consistent with precedent. The FCC has previously waived Section 25.114(d)(3) in similar circumstances.

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<sup>11</sup> The pending modification application for operation of Galaxy 11 at 44.8° W.L. contains this same waiver request. *See* File No. SAT-MOD-20121018-00184.

### **III. REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF LICENSE TERM**

Intelsat seeks to extend the license term for the Galaxy 11 satellite for approximately four years through January 2019. The Galaxy 11 satellite was launched on December 21, 1999, and placed into service on April 3, 2000.<sup>12</sup> Pursuant to Sections 25.121(a) and (d)(1) of the Commission's rules, the license term for Galaxy 11 will expire on April 6, 2015.<sup>13</sup> That expiration date is well before the expected end of service life of the satellite. Intelsat's most recent estimated end service life for the Galaxy 11 satellite is January 2019.<sup>14</sup>

### **IV. GRANT OF THIS APPLICATION, AS AMENDED, WILL SERVE THE PUBLIC INTEREST**

The proposed grant of interim authority will serve the public interest. The continued operation of Galaxy 11 at 55.6° W.L. will help to ensure the safe station-keeping of Galaxy 11 with the neighboring Intelsat 805 satellite at 55.5° W.L. The proposed amendment will not impact Galaxy 11's customers or adversely affect any party.

Intelsat has assessed and limited the probability of the space station becoming a source of debris as a result of collisions with large debris or other operational space stations. Galaxy 11 will not be located at the same orbital location as another satellite or at an orbital location that has an overlapping station-keeping volume with another satellite. Further, Intelsat is not aware of any other FCC licensed system, or any other system applied for and under consideration by

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<sup>12</sup> *PanAmSat Licensee Corp.*, Order and Authorization, 15 FCC Rcd 4456 (2000); *see also* Letter from Joseph A. Godles, Attorney for PanAmSat Corporation, to Marlene H. Dortch, Federal Communications Commission, PanAmSat Corporation Annual Status Report, (June 30, 2000).

<sup>13</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 25.121(a) & (d)(1).

<sup>14</sup> *See* Amendment No. 9 to Form F-1 Registration Statement, Intelsat Global Holdings S.A. (Apr. 9, 2013), available at <http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1525773/000119312513147847/d204908df1a.htm>.

the FCC, having an overlapping station-keeping volume with Galaxy 11 at 55.6° W.L. Moreover, Intelsat will continue to operate Galaxy 11 at 55.6° W.L. in accordance with Intelsat's coordination agreements concerning the nominal 55.5° W.L. location. The only co-frequency satellites located within plus or minus three degrees of 55.6° W.L. are Intelsat satellites. Intelsat is not aware of any system with an overlapping station-keeping volume with Galaxy 11 that is the subject of an ITU filing and that is either in orbit or progressing towards launch. Accordingly, grant of Intelsat request for interim authority to operate Galaxy 11 at 55.6° W.L. will serve the public interest.

Additionally, grant of Intelsat's request to extend the Galaxy 11 license term—and previously granted waivers—will serve the public interest by enabling customers to continue receiving service from this operational satellite. The Galaxy 11 satellite has at least four years of useful life remaining. There are no single points of failure on Galaxy 11 that would result in an inability to de-orbit the satellite. Additionally, the satellite's TT&C functions are operating normally. Extending the license term will promote the continued efficient use of orbital resources and is consistent with recent decisions by the Commission to extend satellite license terms.<sup>15</sup>

In a 2010 modification application, Intelsat provided a post-mission disposal plan for the Galaxy 11 satellite.<sup>16</sup> This plan demonstrates that the Galaxy 11 satellite has sufficient fuel to

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<sup>15</sup> See, e.g., *Policy Branch Information; Actions Taken*, Report No. SAT-00905, DA 12-1680, File No. SAT-MOD-20120629-00109 (Oct. 19, 2012) (Public Notice) (extending license terms of an SES satellite for an additional five years); *Policy Branch Information; Actions Taken*, Report No. SAT-00664, DA 10-236, File No. SAT-MOD-20091119-00123 (Feb. 5, 2010)(Public Notice) (extending license term of Sirius XM satellites for an additional seven years).

<sup>16</sup> See *Policy Branch Information; Satellite Space Applications*, Accepted for Filing, Report No. SAT-00764, File No. SAT-MOD-20101102-00229 (March 11, 2011) (Public Notice).

dispose of the satellite by moving it to a minimum altitude of 300 kilometers above the geostationary arc.<sup>17</sup> Intelsat has reserved 30 kg kilograms of fuel for this purpose.

**V. CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing, Intelsat respectfully requests that the Commission grant the pending modification application to relocate Galaxy 11 to 44.8° W.L., and also grant this amendment application seeking interim authority to operate Galaxy 11 at 55.6° W.L. and to extend the satellite's license term.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Susan H. Crandall  
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Intelsat Corporation

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April 29, 2014

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<sup>17</sup> The Commission has designated satellites launched prior to March 18, 2002, such as Galaxy 11, as grandfathered satellites not subject to a specific disposal altitude. *See Mitigation of Orbital Debris*, Second Report and Order, 19 FCC Rcd 11567, 11600-01 (2004).

**Exhibit A**  
**FCC Form 312, Response to Question 34: Foreign Ownership**

The Commission previously approved foreign ownership in Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”), in the *Intelsat-Serafina Order*.<sup>18</sup> In December 2009 and October 2011, the Commission also approved *pro forma* changes in Intelsat’s foreign ownership.<sup>19</sup> There have been no other material changes to Intelsat’s foreign ownership since the date of the *Intelsat-Serafina Order*.

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<sup>18</sup> *Intelsat Holdings, Ltd. and Serafina Holdings Limited, Consolidated Application for Consent to Transfer of Control of Holders of Title II and Title III Authorizations*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 22 FCC Rcd 22,151 (2007).

<sup>19</sup> *See Intelsat North America LLC, Intelsat LLC, PanAmSat Licensee Corp., PanAmSat H-2 Licensee Corp., and Intelsat New Dawn Company, Ltd., Applications for Pro Forma Transfer of Control*, File Nos. SAT-T/C-20091125-00128, SAT-T/C-20091125-00124, SAT-T/C-20091125-00127, SAT-T/C-20091125-00125, SAT-T/C-20091125-00126, SES-T/C-20091125-01505, SES-T/C-20091125-01502, SES-T/C-20091125-01506, SES-T/C-20091125-01504 and SES-T/C-20091125-01503 (granted Dec. 3, 2009); *Intelsat Application for Pro Forma Transfer of Control*, File Nos. SAT-T/C-20110810-00160, SAT-T/C-20110811-00161, SES-T/C-20110811-00948, SES-T/C-20110812-00963 (granted Oct. 13, 2011), and 0004825139 (granted Oct. 19, 2011).

**Exhibit B**  
**FCC Form 312, Response to Question 36: Cancelled Authorizations**

Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) has never had an FCC license “revoked.” However, on June 26, 2000, the International Bureau “cancelled” two Ka-band satellite authorizations issued to a former Intelsat entity, PanAmSat Licensee Corp. (“PanAmSat”),<sup>20</sup> based on the Bureau’s finding that PanAmSat had not satisfied applicable construction milestones.<sup>21</sup> In that same order, the Bureau denied related applications to modify the cancelled authorizations. PanAmSat filed an application for review of the Bureau’s decision, which the Commission denied, and subsequently filed an appeal with the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, which was dismissed in January 2003 at PanAmSat’s request. Notwithstanding the fact that the Bureau’s action does not seem to be the kind of revocation action contemplated by question 36, Intelsat is herein making note of the decision in the interest of absolute candor and out of an abundance of caution. In any event, the Bureau’s action with respect to PanAmSat does not reflect on Intelsat’s basic qualifications, which are well-established and a matter of public record.

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<sup>20</sup> All licenses previously held by PanAmSat Licensee Corp. have been assigned to Intelsat License LLC. See IBFS File Nos. SAT-ASG-20101203-00252 (granted Dec. 23, 2010), SES-ASG-20101203-0150 (granted Dec. 20, 2010), and SES-ASG-20101206-01502 (granted Dec. 20, 2010).

<sup>21</sup> See *PanAmSat Licensee Corp.*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 15 FCC Rcd 18720 (IB 2000).

**Exhibit C**  
**FCC Form 312, Response to Question 40:**  
**Officers, Directors, and Ten Percent or Greater Shareholders**

The officers and directors/managers of Intelsat License LLC are as follows:

Officers:

Michael McDonnell, Chairman  
Flavien Bachabi, Deputy Chairman  
Michelle Bryan, Secretary  
Simon Van De Weg, Director, Finance

Board of Managers:

Michael McDonnell  
Flavien Bachabi  
Michelle Bryan

The business address of all Intelsat License LLC officers and members of the Board of Managers is:  
4 rue Albert Borschette  
L-1246 Luxembourg

Intelsat License LLC is a Delaware limited liability company that is wholly owned by Intelsat License Holdings LLC, also a Delaware limited liability company. Intelsat License Holdings LLC is wholly owned by Intelsat Jackson Holdings S.A., a Luxembourg company. Intelsat Jackson Holdings S.A. is wholly owned by Intelsat (Luxembourg) S.A., a Luxembourg company. Intelsat (Luxembourg) S.A. is wholly owned by Intelsat Investments S.A., a Luxembourg company. Intelsat Investments S.A. is wholly owned by Intelsat Holdings S.A., a Luxembourg company. Intelsat Holdings S.A. is wholly owned by Intelsat Investment Holdings S.à r.l., a Luxembourg company. Intelsat Investment Holdings S.à r.l. is wholly owned by Intelsat S.A., a Luxembourg company. Each of these entities may be contacted at the following address: 4 rue Albert Borschette, L-1246 Luxembourg.

Intelsat S.A.'s ownership was approved by the Commission as part of the *Intelsat-Serafina Order* and the recent Intelsat Pro Forma and is incorporated by reference. *See Intelsat Holdings, Ltd. and Serafina Holdings Limited, Consolidated Application for Consent to Transfer of Control of Holders of Title II and Title III Authorizations*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 22 FCC Rcd 22,151 (2007) ("*Intelsat-Serafina Order*"); *Intelsat Application for Pro Forma Transfer of Control*, File Nos. SAT-T/C-20110810-00160, SAT-T/C-20110811-00161, SES-T/C-20110811-00948, SES-T/C-20110812-00963 (granted Oct. 13, 2011), and 0004825139 (granted Oct. 19, 2011) ("*Intelsat Pro Forma*"). On May 16, 2012, the International Bureau granted an application to transfer control of Intelsat pursuant to a public offering of newly issued voting shares by Intelsat, subsequent voting share sales by current shareholders and possible private placements of newly issued voting shares. *In the Matter of Intelsat Global Holdings, S.A., Applications to Transfer Control of Intelsat Licenses and Authorizations from BC Partners Holdings Limited to Public Ownership*, Order, DA 12-768 (rel. May 16, 2012). This change of control has not yet been consummated.