

**Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Intelsat License LLC	)	File Nos. SAT-LOA-20170524-00078 &
	)	SAT-AMD-20170613-00086
Application for Authority to Launch and	)	Call Sign S3015
Operate Galaxy 15R at 133° W.L.	)	

**PETITION FOR CLARIFICATION OF O3B LIMITED**

O3b Limited (“O3b”) requests clarification of the International Bureau’s grant of the above-referenced Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) applications for the Galaxy 15R space station.<sup>1</sup> In response to concerns raised by O3b, the Commission incorporated into the Galaxy 15R Grant a condition relating to Intelsat’s use of spectrum in which Ka-band non-geostationary orbit (“NGSO”) fixed-satellite service (“FSS”) systems have primary status, the 18.8-19.3 GHz and 28.6-29.1 GHz bands (the “NGSO-Primary Band”). The condition requires Intelsat to either certify that it has reached a coordination agreement with the operator of a Ka-band NGSO system authorized to serve the United States or make a detailed technical showing regarding how Intelsat will ensure the Ka-band NGSO system is protected.<sup>2</sup> The language of the condition provides that such a showing must be made at least sixty days prior to the initial launch of a given NGSO FSS system.

O3b seeks clarification because the effect of this condition with respect to protection of the O3b system, which already operates in the NGSO-Primary Bands under a grant of U.S. market access, is not clear. Intelsat cannot submit the required showing with respect to O3b

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<sup>1</sup> Intelsat License LLC, Call Sign S3015, File Nos. SAT-LOA-20170524-00078 & SAT-AMD-20170613-00086, grant-stamped May 10, 2018 (the “Galaxy 15R Grant”).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*, Attachment to Grant at 5, ¶ 19 & n.5.

sixty days before the initial launch of the O3b NGSO system, as O3b's system has been operation since September 2014. Thus, applying the condition retroactively would make it impossible to meet. On the other hand, a purely prospective reading of the condition would be irrational, suggesting that Intelsat is obligated to provide a non-interference demonstration only with respect to future NGSO systems, and not with respect to the operational O3b network that is currently serving customers in the U.S. and around the globe.

To avoid any confusion arising from this language, O3b suggests the Commission modify Paragraph 19 of the Galaxy 15R Grant conditions by adding the underlined sentence below:

At least sixty days before the scheduled initial launch of each NGSO FSS satellite system licensed or granted market access in the United States to operate in the 18.8-19.3 GHz and 28.6-29.1 GHz frequency bands, Intelsat must either: (1) notify the Commission in writing when an agreement has been reached with the NGSO satellite system operator, or (2) seek and obtain the Commission's approval of a modification of this license including detailed technical demonstrations of how Intelsat will protect the NGSO FSS satellite system. If neither condition is met, Intelsat must cease operations in the 18.8-19.3 GHz and 28.6-29.1 GHz frequency bands pursuant to this license until such time as compliance is demonstrated. Intelsat must comply with either (1) or (2) above with respect to the NGSO FSS satellite system operated by O3b Limited at least sixty days before the scheduled launch of Galaxy 15R and must not commence operations in the 18.8-19.3 GHz and 28.6-29.1 GHz frequency bands pursuant to this license until such time as compliance is demonstrated.

O3b informed Intelsat that it would be seeking this clarification of the Galaxy 15R Grant, and Intelsat has advised O3b that it has no objection to addition of the above sentence as proposed by O3b.

Accordingly, O3b requests that the Commission reissue the Galaxy 15R Grant with the clarifying change discussed above.

Respectfully submitted,

**O3B LIMITED**

Of Counsel  
Karis A. Hastings  
SatCom Law LLC  
1317 F Street, N.W., Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20004  
karis@satcomlaw.com

By: /s/ Suzanne H. Malloy  
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs  
O3b Limited  
900 17th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

June 11, 2018

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 11th day of June, 2018, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing "Petition for Clarification of O3b Limited" to be sent by first class mail, postage prepaid, to the following:

Susan H. Crandall  
Cynthia J. Grady  
Intelsat Corp.  
7900 Tysons One Place  
McLean, VA 22102-5972

Jennifer D. Hindin  
Wiley Rein LLP  
1776 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
*Counsel to Intelsat License LLC*

Maureen C. McLaughlin  
Vice President, Public Policy  
Iridium Satellite LLC  
1750 Tysons Boulevard, Suite 1400  
McLean, VA 22102

Scott Blake Harris  
V. Shiva Goel  
Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis LLP  
1919 M Street, N.W., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
*Counsel to Iridium Satellite LLC*

Carlos M. Nalda  
LMI Advisors, LLC  
2550 M Street, N.W., Suite 345  
Washington, D.C. 20037  
*Counsel to Eutelsat S.A.*

/s/ Suzanne Malloy  
Suzanne Malloy