



International Bureau

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

May 18, 2005

Pantelis Michalopoulos
Steptoe & Johnson LLP
1330 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Re: EchoStar Satellite Corporation, File No.
SAT-LOA-20030827-00186; Call Sign
S2499.

Dear Mr. Michalopoulos:

This letter requests additional information regarding EchoStar Satellite Corporation's (EchoStar) milestone obligation to execute a construction contract as set forth in its authorization to launch and operate the EchoStar 97 Ka-band satellite at the 97° W.L. orbit location.¹ Pursuant to this authorization, EchoStar was required to execute a binding contract by March 8, 2005 for the construction of the EchoStar 97 satellite. EchoStar submitted to the Commission a construction contract between Lockheed Martin Corporation and EchoStar Orbital Corporation II dated March 8, 2005. Because the licensee of this authorization is EchoStar Satellite Corporation, please submit information demonstrating the relationship between the licensee and EchoStar Orbital Corporation II that evidences the licensee's obligation to commence construction pursuant to its Ka-band license. In addition, the contract submitted was not executed by all parties. Please submit a signature page (or pages) signed by representatives of all parties bound by the contract.

Please submit this information and relevant documentation to the Commission's Secretary by May 25, 2005, with a copy to Alyssa Roberts of my staff (Alyssa.Roberts@fcc.gov). Failure to timely provide this information may render EchoStar's authorization null and void. Please contact Alyssa Roberts if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fern J. Jarmulnek".

Fern J. Jarmulnek
Deputy Chief
Satellite Division

¹ EchoStar Satellite Corporation, File No. SAT-LOA-20030827-00186, grant stamped with conditions by Robert Nelson, Chief, Satellite Engineering Branch (Sat. Div., Int'l Bur.) on March 8, 2004.