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October 8, 2006

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals, Room TW-A325  
455 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation, File Nos. SAT-LOA-20040803-00154, SAT-MOD-20051007-00198, SAT-AMD-20051118-00248 and SAT-AMD-20060724-00081, Call Sign S2636**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Sections 25.164(d) of the Commission's rules<sup>1</sup> and the Commission's *First Space Station Licensing Reform Order*,<sup>2</sup> EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation ("EchoStar") hereby submits a certification of completion of the critical design review ("CDR") milestone set forth in its authorization to operate a Ka-band fixed-satellite service ("FSS") satellite at 113° W.L.<sup>3</sup> See Attachment 1. EchoStar is separately submitting an unredacted

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<sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. §25.164(d).

<sup>2</sup> *In the Matter of Amendment of the Commission's Space Station Licensing Rules and Policies; Mitigation of Orbital Debris*, First Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in IB Docket No. 02-34, and First Report and Order in IB Docket No. 02-54, 18 FCC Rcd 10760, at ¶ 191 (2003) (requiring that a licensee submit evidence that it has met the critical design review milestone.) ("*First Space Station Licensing Reform Order*").

<sup>3</sup> See Stamp Grant of File No. SAT-LOA-20040803-00154, Condition 2(b) (granted Oct. 8, 2006). EchoStar has subsequently filed an application to modify its authorization to specify the TT&C frequencies for the proposed satellite and to submit information on orbital debris mitigation and post-mission disposal. The modification application (and its amendments) are


(Continued...)

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version of the CDR documentation produced pursuant to EchoStar's contract with Space Systems/Loral ("SSL") (marked as Attachment 2), with a request that it be treated as confidential and not routinely available for public inspection pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457 and 0.459.<sup>4</sup> A cover sheet representing the redacted version of this attachment is being submitted with this letter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions concerning this submission.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures

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still pending. See File Nos. SAT-MOD-20051007-00198, SAT-AMD-20051118-00248 and SAT-AMD-20060724-00081.

<sup>4</sup> See Letter from Pantelis Michalopoulos, Counsel to EchoStar, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, dated October 8, 2006.

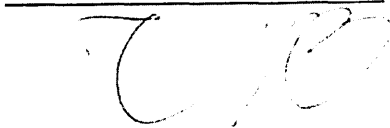
**ATTACHMENT 1**

**Certification of Critical Design Review Completion**

**CERTIFICATION**

I, David Bair, certify under penalty of perjury that:

1. I am the Senior Vice President, Space Programs and Operations of EchoStar Communications Corporation ("EchoStar"), the ultimate parent of EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation.
2. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, EchoStar has completed critical design review of its proposed Ka-band geostationary orbit fixed-satellite service satellite to be located at the 113° W.L. orbital location.



David Bair

October 6, 2006

**ATTACHMENT 2**  
**Critical Design Review Documentation**  
**(Redacted)**