

December 20, 2017

Via Electronic Filing

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Notice of Ex Parte Communication, ET Docket No. 13-115, RM-11341, and IBFS File Nos. SAT-LOA-20161115-00118 and SAT-LOA-20170301-00027*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to inform you that, on December 19, 2017, representatives of Space Exploration Technologies Corp. ("SpaceX") met separately with Chairman Ajit Pai and his legal advisor, Rachael Bender; Commissioner Michael O'Rielly and his legal advisor, Erin McGrath; Commissioner Brendan Carr and his acting legal advisor, Nirali Patel; and Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel and her special advisor, Jessica Martinez, with respect to the above referenced proceedings. Present at the meeting on behalf of SpaceX were Gwynne Shotwell, President; Tim Hughes, Senior Vice President, Global Business and Government Affairs; and Patricia Cooper, Vice President, Satellite Government Affairs.

During the meeting, SpaceX highlighted its ongoing space launch and commercial cargo transportation services business, noting its successful completion of 17 launch missions to date in 2017, with one additional mission scheduled for the year. With launch missions expected to increase even further in 2018, SpaceX reiterated its encouragement for the Commission to act in the proceeding in which it has proposed to allocate spectrum resources for commercial space launch operations.¹ Such an allocation would allow for significant streamlining of current Commission licensing activities per launch, an efficiency that will become even more important as the cadence of commercial launch and recovery activities continues to escalate and additional companies join the U.S. commercial sector over the next few years. SpaceX expressed its hope that this proceeding could be resolved in the near future to implement the allocations proposed and that in the longer term, all spectrum needed for commercial launch activities could be allocated for that use.

¹ See Amendment of Part 2 of the Commission's Rules for Federal Earth Stations Communicating with Non-Federal Fixed Satellite Service Space Stations, 28 FCC Red. 6698, ¶¶ 65-88 (2013).

SpaceX also discussed its pending applications for operating authority for a non-geostationary orbit (“NGSO”), Fixed-Satellite Service (“FSS”) system operating in the Ku-, Ka-, and V-bands.² SpaceX expressed thanks for the Commission’s issuance of experimental licenses for upcoming demonstration satellites and described the company’s progress in developing highly-intelligent satellites that will eventually populate an NGSO FSS constellation capable of providing high-speed, reliable and affordable broadband services for consumers located throughout the U.S. and around the world.

SpaceX also reiterated its appreciation for the Commission’s recent order³ updating the Commission’s Part 2 and 25 rules for NGSO systems, and the U.S. leadership it demonstrated for a fair and modern approach for NGSO systems to utilize allocated spectrum.

Sincerely yours,



Patricia Cooper
Vice President of Satellite Government Affairs

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² See IBFS File Nos. SAT-LOA-20161115-00118 and SAT-LOA-20170301-00027.

³ See *Update to Parts 2 and 25 Concerning Non-Geostationary, Fixed-Satellite Service Systems and Related Matters*, 32 FCC Rcd. 7809 (2017).