

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

In the Matter of)	
)	
Globalstar Licensee LLC)	Call Sign S2115
)	
Modification of Authority to)	
Implement an Ancillary Terrestrial Component)	
)	

ORDER OF MODIFICATION

Adopted: October 7, 2008

Released: October 10, 2008

By the Commission:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. By this Order, we modify the license of Globalstar Licensee LLC (Globalstar) for "Big LEO" mobile-satellite service (MSS) with an ancillary terrestrial component (ATC) to provide increased spectrum for ATC operations.¹ Specifically, we modify Globalstar's authorization in order to permit ATC throughout 7.775 megahertz of spectrum in the 1610-1617.775 MHz L-band frequencies, and 11.5 megahertz of spectrum in the 2483.5-2495 MHz S-band frequencies, for a total of 19.275 megahertz of ATC spectrum. This Order is issued pursuant to authority delegated by the Commission in its *April 10, 2008 Order Proposing Modification*.²

II. DISCUSSION

2. In October 1994, the Commission adopted the *Big LEO Order*, establishing licensing and service rules Big LEO systems in the 1610-1626.5 MHz and 2483.5-2500 MHz bands.³ In 1995, Globalstar was authorized to operate a Big LEO space station system using, among other things, a code division multiple access (CDMA) protocol in the 1610-1621.35 MHz and 2483.5-2500 MHz frequency bands.⁴ In 2003, the Commission adopted the *ATC Report and Order*, permitting MSS licensees to seek authority to implement ATC in MSS bands, including the Big LEO bands.⁵ In the Big LEO bands, the

¹ Big LEO systems provide voice and data communication to users with handheld mobile terminals via non-geostationary satellites in Low Earth Orbit (LEO).

² Spectrum and Service Rules for Ancillary Terrestrial Components in the 1.6/2.4 GHz Big LEO Bands, Globalstar Licensee LLC Authority to Implement an Ancillary Terrestrial Component, *Report and Order and Order Proposing Modification*, IB Docket No. 07-253, 23 FCC Rcd 7210 (2008) (cited as either the *Report and Order* or the *April 10, 2008 Order Proposing Modification*, as appropriate).

³ Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Establish Rules and Policies Pertaining to a Mobile Satellite Service in the 1610-1626.5/2483.5-2500 MHz Frequency Bands, *Report and Order*, 9 FCC Rcd 5936 (1994) (*Big LEO Order*).

⁴ Loral/Qualcom, L.P., Authority to Construct, Launch and Operate Globalstar, a Low Earth Orbit Satellite System to Provide Mobile Satellite Services in the 1610-1626.5 MHz/2483.5-2500 MHz Bands, *Order and Authorization*, 10 FCC Rcd 2333 (Int'l Bur. 1995).

⁵ See Flexibility for Delivery of Communications by Mobile Satellite Service Providers in the 2 GHz Band, the L-Band, and the 1.6/2.4 GHz Bands, *Report and Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, IB Docket No. 01-185, 18 FCC Rcd 1962 (2003) (*ATC Report and Order*). MSS systems can provide communications in areas where it is difficult or impossible to provide communications coverage via terrestrial systems, such as remote or rural areas and

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Commission limited ATC operations to the 1610-1615.5 MHz and 2492.5-2498 MHz bands for CDMA systems.⁶

3. In 2006, the Commission granted Globalstar authority to operate ATC in the 1610-1615.5 and 2487.5-2493 MHz bands.⁷ On June 20, 2006, Globalstar filed a petition for rulemaking requesting that the Commission authorize Globalstar to provide ATC using its entire authorized MSS spectrum.⁸ On November 9, 2007, the Commission released the *Globalstar ATC Notice* in which it sought comment on increasing the amount of spectrum in which Globalstar is authorized to operate ATC, to include Globalstar's 25.225 megahertz of assigned spectrum, at 1610-1618.725 MHz in the L-band and 2483.5-2500 MHz in the S-band.⁹ On April 10, 2008, in the *Report and Order*, the Commission found it in the public interest to make more spectrum available for ATC operations in the Big LEO bands.¹⁰ The Commission increased the L-band spectrum that a Big LEO CDMA licensee may use for ATC by 2.275 megahertz, from 1610-1615.5 MHz to 1610-1617.775 MHz,¹¹ and increased the S-band spectrum that a Big LEO CDMA licensee may use by six megahertz, from 2487.5-2493 MHz to 2483.5-2495 MHz.¹²

4. In the same order, the Commission proposed to modify Globalstar's space station license to effectuate the revisions to available ATC spectrum that the Commission adopted on April 10, 2008.¹³ No party protested the modification of Globalstar's license proposed by the Commission. Consequently, we hereby modify Globalstar's space station license as contemplated in the *April 10, 2008 Order Proposing Modification*.

III. ORDERING CLAUSES

5. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to Section 316 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 316, that the space station license held by Globalstar Licensee LLC (Call Sign S2115) IS MODIFIED. Globalstar Licensee LLC IS AUTHORIZED to operate ancillary terrestrial component service in the 1610-1617.775 MHz and 2483.5-2495 MHz frequency bands.

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non-coastal maritime regions. A disadvantage of MSS is the fact that the satellite link is susceptible to blocking by structural attenuation, particularly in urban areas and inside buildings. ATC allows MSS operators to operate a terrestrial service on the same frequencies as their satellite networks to overcome blocking.

⁶ *ATC Report and Order*, 18 FCC Rcd at 2057 (para. 192). The S-band spectrum for CDMA systems' ATC operations was later shifted down five megahertz to the 2487.5-2493 MHz band. Review of the Spectrum Sharing Plan Among Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit Mobile Satellite Service Systems in the 1.6/2.4 GHz Bands, *Report and Order, Fourth Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, IB Docket No. 02-364, 19 FCC Rcd 13356, 13389-90 (para. 75) (2004).

⁷ See Globalstar LLC Request for Authority to Implement an Ancillary Terrestrial Component for the Globalstar Big LEO Mobile Satellite Service System, *Order and Authorization*, 21 FCC Rcd 398, 401 (para. 9) (Int'l Bur. 2006) (*Globalstar ATC Authorization*).

⁸ See Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau Reference Information Center Petition for Rulemakings Filed, *Public Notice*, Report No. 2784, RM-11339, released July 27, 2006.

⁹ See Spectrum and Service Rules for Ancillary Terrestrial Components in the 1.6/2.4 GHz Big LEO Bands; Review of the Spectrum Sharing Plan Among Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit Mobile Satellite Service Systems in the 1.6/2.4 GHz Bands, IB Docket No. 07-254, IB Docket No. 02-364, *Second Order on Reconsideration, Second Report and Order, and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 07-194, 22 FCC Rcd 19733, 19745-52 (paras. 27-42) (2007) (*Globalstar ATC Notice*).

¹⁰ *Report and Order*, 23 FCC Rcd at 7214 (para. 10).

¹¹ *Id.* at 7215 (para. 13).

¹² *Id.* at 7218 (para. 21).

¹³ *Order Proposing Modification*, 23 FCC Rcd at 7225 (para. 39).

6. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this modification to the license of Globalstar Licensee LLC is effective upon release.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary

