

STEPTOE & JOHNSON<sup>LLP</sup>  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Pantelis Michalopoulos  
202.429.6494  
pmichalo@steptoe.com

1330 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036-1795  
Tel 202.429.3000  
Fax 202.429.3902  
steptoe.com

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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Policy Branch  
International Bureau

March 8, 2006

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 No. SAT-MOD-20050308-00059,  
Call Sign S2499**

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 97° W.L.<sup>3</sup> See Attachment 1. EchoStar is separately submitting an unredacted version of the CDR report 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

<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*, FCC 03-102, 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, File No. SAT-MOD-20050308-00059 (granted Apr. 20, 2005).


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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,

David K. Moskowitz  
Senior Vice President and General Counsel  
**EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation**  
5701 South Santa Fe  
Littleton, CO 80120  
(303) 723-1000

 /BDK  
Pantelis Michalopoulos  
**Steptoe & Johnson LLP**  
1330 Connecticut Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 429-3000

*Counsel for EchoStar Communications  
Corp. and EchoStar Satellite Operating  
Corporation*

Enclosures

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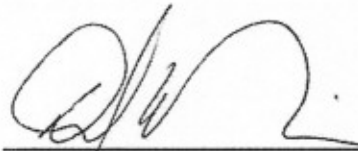
<sup>4</sup> See Letter from Pantelis Michalopoulos, Counsel to EchoStar, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, dated March 8, 2006.

**Attachment 1**  
**Certification of David Bair**

## 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 ("FSS") satellite to be located at the 97° W.L. orbital location.
3. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, EchoStar has met every milestone and fulfilled all of its obligations under its manufacturing contract with Space Systems/Loral, as of the date hereof.



David Bair

March 8, 2006

**Attachment 2**  
**CD of CDR Report**  
**[Redacted]**