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March 8, 2007

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

FILED/ACCEPTED

MAR - 8 2007

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

**Re: EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation, File No. SAT-LOA-20030827-00186,
SAT-MOD-20050308-00059, Call Sign S2499**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Sections 25.164(e) of the Commission's rules¹ and the Commission's *First Space Station Licensing Reform Order*,² EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation ("EchoStar") hereby submits a certification of completion of the physical construction milestone set forth in its authorization to operate a Ka-band fixed-satellite service ("FSS") satellite at 97° W.L.³ See Attachment 1. EchoStar is separately submitting an unredacted version of the statement provided by Space Systems/Loral describing the construction status of the satellite (marked as Attachment 2), with a request that it be treated as confidential and not routinely

¹ 47 C.F.R. §25.164(e).

² *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 ¶ 192 (2003) (requiring that a licensee submit evidence that it has met the physical construction milestone.) ("*First Space Station Licensing Reform Order*").

³ See Stamp Grant, File No. SAT-MOD-20050308-00059 (granted Apr. 20, 2005).

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available for public inspection pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457 and 0.459.⁴ 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,



Linda Kinney
Vice President, Law and Regulation
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Enclosures

⁴ See Letter from Pantelis Michalopoulos, Counsel to EchoStar, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, dated March 8, 2007.

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ATTACHMENT 1

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 satisfied the third milestone requirement for its Ka-band Fixed-Satellite Service satellite authorized to operate at 97° W.L. by beginning physical construction of the satellite.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Bair', written over a horizontal line.

David Bair

March 8, 2007

ATTACHMENT 2

(Redacted)