

September 30, 2010

By Electronic Filing

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Commencement of Deorbit Maneuvers for Satcom C-3 (Call Sign S2447)
File No. SAT-MOD-20080318-00073**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

SES Americom, Inc., (“SES Americom,” doing business as “SES WORLD SKIES”),¹ by its attorneys, hereby advises the Commission of its plan to commence end-of-life maneuvers for its Satcom C-3 spacecraft, call sign S2447.

In the above-referenced modification application, SES Americom requested and received authority to perform telemetry, tracking and command (“TT&C”) in order to place Satcom C-3 in a disposal orbit at the end of its useful life.² As explained in the Satcom C-3 Modification, because the spacecraft was launched and operational prior to March 18, 2002, Satcom C-3 is not subject to the minimum perigee requirement contained in Section 25.283(a) of the Commission’s Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 25.283(a). SES Americom advised the Commission that it planned to deorbit Satcom C-3 to a disposal orbit with a minimum perigee of 150 km above the normal operational altitude.³

SES Americom intends to begin orbit-raising maneuvers on October 5 and complete them by October 19. The deorbit plans conform to the terms described in the Satcom C-3 Modification. However, as the Commission is aware, there is no mechanism that allows precise calculations of the amount of fuel left on a spacecraft once it is in orbit, and therefore it is possible that the Satcom C-3 spacecraft will not reach the targeted 150 km minimum de-orbit altitude. Following completion of de-orbit maneuvers, SES Americom will notify the Commission of the final disposal orbit characteristics.

¹ SES WORLD SKIES is the commercial brand name for the integrated operations of two indirect subsidiaries of SES S.A.: SES Americom and New Skies Satellites B.V. (effective January 1, 2009). The brand name does not affect the underlying legal entities that hold Commission authorizations or U.S. market access rights.

² File No. SAT-MOD-20080318-00073 (“Satcom C-3 Modification”), Narrative at 2-3 & Appendix 1 at 3, grant-stamped June 11, 2008.

³ *Id.*, Appendix 1 at 3.

Please address any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Karis A. Hastings

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