



SATELLITE  
RADIO

ORIGINAL

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

March 28, 2005

**Via Hand Delivery**

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

**Re: XM Radio Inc.  
License to Operate Satellite Digital Audio Radio Service ("SDARS")  
Satellites at 85°WL and 115°WL  
Call Signs S2118, S2616, and S2617  
File Nos. SAT-RPL-20040212-00018; SAT-RPL-20040212-00019; and  
SAT-MOD-20040212-00017**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 26, 2005, the International Bureau ("Bureau") issued a decision authorizing XM Radio Inc. ("XM") (i) to launch and operate a replacement satellite ("XM-3"; Call Sign S2617) at 85°WL (*see* File No. SAT-RPL-20040212-00019); (ii) upon launch, testing, and successful operation of XM-3, to relocate its current in-orbit satellite ("XM-1," Call Sign S2118) to the 115°WL orbital location where it will be collocated with XM Radio's in-orbit satellite at or near that location ("XM-2," Call Sign S2119) (*see* File No. SAT-MOD-20040212-00017);<sup>1</sup> and (iii) to launch and operate a replacement satellite ("XM-4"; Call Sign S2616) at 115°WL (*see* File No. SAT-RPL-20040212-00018).<sup>2</sup> Paragraph 36 of this decision requires XM to submit a written statement by March 28, 2005 identifying any known satellites located at, or planned to be located at, the 85°WL and 115°WL orbital locations, or assigned in the vicinity of that location, such that the station keeping volume of the satellites might overlap, and that states the measures that will be taken to prevent in-orbit collisions with such satellites.

85°WL. SES Americom Inc. ("SES") currently holds Commission authorizations to operate satellites at the 85°WL orbital location. XM has coordinated the station keeping box of XM-3 with SES such that the station keeping volumes of the satellites will not overlap. XM is not aware of any other FCC- or non-FCC-licensed spacecrafts that are operational or planned to be deployed at or near the 85°WL orbital location whose station-keeping volume would overlap with XM-3.

<sup>1</sup> XM has an application pending to relocate XM-2 from 115.0°WL to 115.1°WL. *See* File No. SAT-MOD-20050307-00058; *see also* File No. SAT-STA-20050127-00013.

<sup>2</sup> *See XM Radio Inc., Order and Authorization*, DA 05-180 (January 26, 2005).

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch

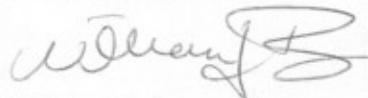
March 28, 2005

Page 2

115°WL. XM understands that a Satmex S.A. de C.V. ("Satmex") satellite ("Morelos II") is located at the 114.9°WL orbital location. XM plans to operate its XM-1 and XM-2 satellites at the 115.0°WL and 115.1°WL orbital locations, respectively, each with an East-West station keeping tolerance of  $\pm 0.05^\circ$ , thereby avoiding overlapping with the station keeping box of the Morelos II satellite.<sup>3</sup> In addition, CyberStar Licensee LLC (Loral) holds an FCC license to launch and operate a Ka-band satellite at the 115°WL orbital location. See *CyberStar Licensee LLC, Order and Authorization*, DA 01-223 (Chief, International Bureau, January 31, 2001). The launch milestone for this satellite is June 25, 2005. *Id.* XM understands that this satellite has not yet been launched. XM will coordinate the station keeping boxes of its satellites at or near the 115°WL orbital location with Loral prior to the operation of the Loral Ka-band satellite at 115°WL. XM is not aware of any other FCC- or non-FCC-licensed spacecraft that are operational or planned to be deployed at or near the 115°WL orbital location whose station-keeping volume would overlap with XM's satellites.

Please direct any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,



William Bailey  
Senior Vice President, Regulatory and  
Government Affairs

cc: Thomas Tycz  
Andrea Kelly

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<sup>3</sup> XM plans to launch its authorized XM-4 satellite (Call Sign S2616) to the 115°WL orbital location in 2007. Prior to launch, XM will coordinate the station keeping box of the XM-4 satellite with other operators at or near the 115°WL orbital location.