



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

International Bureau

April 10, 2002

Jennifer D. **Hindin** Esq.  
Wiley Rein & Fielding LLP  
1776 K Street NW  
Washington, DC 20006

Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority  
INTELSAT 604  
Call Sign: **S2390**  
File No.: SAT-STA-20020403-00044

Dear Ms. **Hindin**:

This letter is in response to your request for special temporary authority ("STA") for a period of 180 days to allow **Intelsat** LLC ("Intelsat") to drift the INTELSAT 604 satellite from 60° E.L. to 157° E.L.<sup>1</sup> **Intelsat** notes that the INTELSAT 604 satellite has recently been replaced at 60° E.L. by the INTELSAT 904 satellite, which was launched on February 23, 2002.<sup>2</sup> On December 21, 2001, Intelsat filed an application to modify the license for INTELSAT 604 to allow its deployment at 157° E.L.<sup>3</sup> That application remains pending. Intelsat states that because INTELSAT 604 has been replaced and because it wishes to start service at the 157° E.L. orbital location as soon as possible, it has filed the above STA request.

**Intelsat** asserts that the public interest will be served by a grant of this request because it will allow **Intelsat** to begin operations at 157° E.L. at the earliest possible date and thereby bring a vacant orbital location into use more quickly. During the drift, Intelsat states that it will utilize only the satellite's tracking, telemetry, command and monitoring (TTC&M) frequencies and no communications services will be transmitted. **Intelsat** further states it will make every effort to ensure that the use of the TTC&M frequencies during the drift does not cause harmful interference to other operators.

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<sup>1</sup> **Intelsat** LLC Request for Special Temporary Authority to Drift INTELSAT 604 from 60° E.L. to 157° E.L. File No. SAT-STA-20020403-00044 (April 3, 2002). See also Letter from Jennifer D. Hindin, Counsel for Intelsat LLC, to William F. Caton, Acting Secretary, FCC (April 4, 2002) (clarifying the time period for STA request). See also E-mail from Jennifer D. Hindin, Counsel for Intelsat LLC, to Jabin Vahora, FCC (April 8, 2002) (stating that the drift of the INTELSAT 604 satellite from 60 degrees E.L. to 157 degrees E.L. is anticipated to take a little more than three months.)

<sup>2</sup> The FCC granted Intelsat's application to modify the license of INTELSAT 904 to permit its deployment at 60° E.L. instead of 34.5° W.L. as originally licensed. *Application of INTELSAT LLC To Modify Authorizations*, SAT-MOD-2001 1221-00140 (filed Dec. 21, 2001) (Stamp grant by Jennifer Gilsonan, Branch Chief, Satellite Policy Branch, FCC, issued March 22, 2002).

<sup>3</sup> See *Application of Intelsat LLC to Modify Authorizations*, File No. SAT-MOD-2001 1221-00142 (filed December 21, 2001). The modification application was placed on Public Notice on January 11, 2002, and no comments were filed. See *Satellite Policy Branch Information, Applications Accepted for Filing, Report No. SAT-00098*; File No. SAT-MOD-2001 1221-00142 (January 11, 2002) (Public Notice).

Under these circumstances, we find that a grant of Intelsat's STA request will serve the public interest since it will enable **Intelsat** to utilize a previously unoccupied orbital location.

Accordingly, pursuant to Section 0.261 of the Commission's rules on delegated authority, 47 C.F.R. §0.261, Special Temporary Authority (SAT-STA-20020403-00044) is granted until October 1, 2002, or until the

Commission issues a decision on the pending modification application, whichever comes first. This Special Temporary Authority is granted only for the purpose of allowing **Intelsat** to drift the INTELSAT 604 satellite from its 60° E.L. location to the 157° E.L. location. This STA does not provide authority to operate INTELSAT 604 at 157° E.L. This special temporary authority is granted subject to the following conditions:

- 1) During the drift of the satellite from 60° E.L. to 157° E.L. Intelsat LLC shall not operate the communications payload on INTELSAT 604: and
- 2) Intelsat shall coordinate its TTC&M operations with existing geostationary satellites to ensure that no unacceptable interference results from its TTC&M operations during its drift operations: and
- 3) Any actions taken as a result of this special temporary authority ARE SOLELY AT INTELSAT LLC'S OWN RISK. This STA shall not prejudice the outcome of the Commission's decision on the pending modification application (SAT-MOD-20011221-00142).

Sincerely,



Cassandra C. Thomas  
Deputy Division Chief  
Satellite Division