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May 5, 2004

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Via Electronic Filing, E-mail, and Facsimile

Thomas S. Tycz
Chief, Satellite Division
International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., Room 6-A665
Washington, DC 20554

Received

MAY 05 2004

**Policy Branch
International Bureau**

Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority for Iridium Constellation LLC
To Provide Global Mobile Satellite Service In The 1620.10-1621.35 MHz
Frequency Band From May 13, 2004 Through and Including The Date On
Which The FCC Takes Action on Iridium's Pending STA Request

Dear Mr. Tycz:

Pursuant to a request by the International Bureau, Iridium Constellation LLC ("Iridium") respectfully requests Special Temporary Authority ("STA") to provide global mobile satellite service ("MSS") in the 1620.10-1621.35 MHz frequency band ("Channel 9") from May 13, 2004 through and including the date on which the FCC takes action on Iridium's pending STA request.¹ Iridium's continued access to Channel 9 spectrum on a temporary basis will allow it to provide critical communications services to U.S. Government and Coalition Forces in the Middle East region, thereby serving the public interest.²

I. Background


Since April 2003, the International Bureau, Satellite Division has permitted Iridium to operate in the 1620.10-1621.35 MHz band to allow Iridium to meet the

¹ See Letter from Peter D. Shields, Counsel to Iridium Constellation, LLC, to Thomas S. Tycz, Chief, Satellite Division, International Bureau, FCC (Mar. 19, 2004) ("*March 19 STA Request*").

² Iridium has filed this STA request and supporting letter electronically via the International Bureau's Filing System ("IBFS") and paid the requisite \$2435.00 filing fee by credit card. 47 C.F.R. § 25.120.

Iridium Constellation LLC
Special Temporary Authority – File No. SAT-STA-20040506-00091
Call Sign S2110
Attachment
May 10, 2004

1. This special temporary authority for Iridium Constellation LLC to operate in the 1620.10-1621.35 MHz band is for a 30 day period, starting on May 13, 2004 and ending on June 11, 2004.
2. This action is taken without prejudice to Commission action in the ongoing rulemaking proceeding in IB Docket No. 02-364, Review of the Spectrum Sharing Plan Among Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit Mobile Satellite Service Systems in the 1.6/2.4 GHz Bands.
3. This action is also taken without prejudice to the Commission's action on Iridium Constellation LLC's application for special temporary authority, filed March 19, 2004, file number SAT-STA-20040319-00056.
4. Iridium Constellation LLC must file a report with the Commission on June 1, 2004, demonstrating its continued need and use of the 1620.10-1621.35 MHz frequency band. This report must include information regarding system loading and system capacity over the Middle East region, from April 1, 2003 to the date of the report.
5. The Iridium satellite system shall operate on a co-equal status with the Globalstar satellite system in the 1620.10-1621.35 MHz band within the Middle East region.
6. In areas outside of the Middle East region the Iridium satellite system must operate in the 1620.10-1621.35 MHz frequency band on a non-harmful interference basis with respect to any other allocated radio service in that band, i.e., Iridium shall not cause harmful interference to, and shall not claim protection from interference caused to it by any other lawfully operating satellites. In the event Iridium is notified of such interference, it must immediately inform the Commission, in writing, of such an event.
7. Iridium Constellation LLC shall maintain the capability of suspending operations in the 1620.10-1621.35 MHz band, upon notice from the Commission, within 24 hours.

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|---|------------|-------------------------------------|
|  GRANTED International Bureau | File # | SAT-STA-20040506-00091 |
| | Call Sign | S2110 |
| | Grant Date | May 10, 2004 |
| | Term Dates | from May 13, 2004 To: June 11, 2004 |
| | Approved: | <i>Andrea S. Kelley</i> |