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Received

DEC 28 2004

December 23, 2004

International Bureau

BY HAND

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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DEC 23 2004

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Re: Galaxy 3R  
Request for Special Temporary Authority  
FCC File No. SAT-STA-20041215-00221

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On December 15, 2004, PanAmSat Licensee Corp. ("PanAmSat") requested special temporary authority ("STA") for 30 days to: (1) relocate Galaxy 3R from 111.0° W.L. to 73.95° W.L.; and (2) operate the tracking, telemetry, and command ("TT&C") payload on the satellite during the relocation and once Galaxy 3R is on station at 73.95° W.L. This letter supplements PanAmSat's STA request to provide a fuller explanation of the need for PanAmSat to relocate Galaxy 3R.

The Commission has granted PanAmSat licenses to operate two space stations in the vicinity of 74° W.L.: (1) Galaxy 12, a C-band satellite that is assigned to 74.0° W.L.; and (2) SBS-6, a Ku-band satellite that is assigned to 74.05° W.L. Pursuant to an STA, however, Galaxy 12 has been relocated 125° W.L.,<sup>1</sup> where it has been serving as an in-orbit spare while Galaxy 5 approached the end of its useful life and where it will serve as the replacement for Galaxy 5, on an interim basis, when Galaxy 5 is retired from service next month.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> More precisely, Galaxy 12 initially was stationed at 125.25° W.L. and is being relocated to 125.05° W.L. See FCC File Nos. SAT-STA-20041208-00216, SAT-STA-20040708-00130.

<sup>2</sup> The Commission has authorized PanAmSat to operate Galaxy 14 as a replacement for Galaxy 5. Galaxy 14, however, will not be launched until after Galaxy 5 needs to be decommissioned.

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch

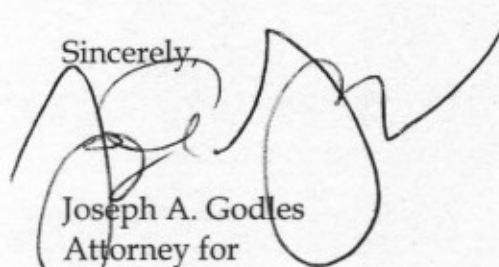
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PanAmSat seeks to relocate Galaxy 3R in order to maintain C-band capabilities in the vicinity of 74° W.L. while Galaxy 12 is on temporary assignment at 125° W.L. PanAmSat will be filing a second STA request in the near future seeking to extend the deployment of Galaxy 3R at 73.95° W.L. for a full 180 days and requesting authority to operate the satellite at that orbital location.<sup>3</sup> PanAmSat also is in the process of re-evaluating its long term deployment plans for 74° W.L. and 125° W.L. and may be making additional filings in the future.

Please direct any questions concerning this matter to the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Joseph A. Godles  
Attorney for  
PanAmSat Licensee Corp.

cc: Robert Nelson, FCC

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<sup>3</sup> Based on customer requirements, PanAmSat may seek authority to operate both the C-band payload and the Ku-band payload on Galaxy 3R while it is located at 73.95° W.L., in which case it will coordinate the Ku-band operations on Galaxy 3R and SBS-6 to avoid frequency conflicts.