



International Bureau

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

April 4, 2005

Mr. Pantelis Michalopoulos
Steptoe & Johnson LLP
1330 Connecticut Avenue
Washington, DC 20036-1795

Re: EchoStar Satellite L.L.C. Application for Special Temporary Authority To Move EchoStar 5 to 129° W.L. and To Conduct Telemetry, Tracking and Command Operations During the Relocation to this Orbital Location.
File Number: STA-STA-20050203-00018

Dear Mr. Michalopoulos,

On February 3, 2005, on behalf of EchoStar Satellite L.L.C. (EchoStar), you filed the above-referenced application requesting Special Temporary Authority (STA) to move the EchoStar 5 satellite from its assigned orbital position of 119° W.L. to the 129° W.L. orbital position. The application states that, at the new location, EchoStar 5 will operate under a Canadian license issued to Ciel Satellite Communications, Inc. (Ciel) and will be used to provide DBS service to the U.S. As part of this application EchoStar supplied a copy of an agreement between itself and Ciel. This agreement contemplates future "Definitive Agreements" and a future "TT&C Agreement." The contract contemplates that these agreements would be entered into by EchoStar and Ciel only after having received a grant of EchoStar's requested STA from the FCC.

Because the requested STA would effectively result in a transfer of the licensing jurisdiction for the EchoStar 5 satellite, a careful review of the terms and conditions of the arrangements involved is in order. In light of the objectives of the parties to the agreement, and in order to permit completion of such a review consistent with those objectives, we are requesting, pursuant to Section 25.111(a) of the Commission's rules, that EchoStar submit additional information concerning the relevant arrangements, in the form of definitive agreements, and a final TT&C Agreement, within 30 days. Failure to provide such agreements within that time period will result in dismissal of the STA request as premature, and without prejudice to its re-filing upon execution of definitive agreements.

We also request the following additional information:

1. A technical assessment of the operability of the EchoStar 5 satellite, including any bus or payload failures that have occurred, and a discussion of the unused fuel reserves on the satellite, the impact of those failures on the consumption of fuel by the satellite, and the projected life expectancy of the satellite.

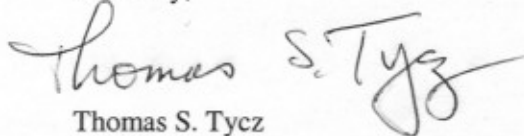
2. A description of the arrangements for disposition of the satellite upon termination of the contract, or upon any event which results in removal of the satellite from the 129° W.L. orbital location.

3. Plan for post-mission disposal of the EchoStar 5 satellite.

Please provide the requested information by May 4, 2005. Failure to respond will subject the application to dismissal pursuant to Sections 25.112(c) and 25.152(b) of the Commission's rules.

Please hand-deliver or email courtesy copies of any filing made in response to this letter to Karl Kensinger (Karl.Kensinger@fcc.gov) and Jay Whaley (Jay.Whaley@fcc.gov) of my staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas S. Tycz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "T" and "y".

Thomas S. Tycz
Chief
Satellite Division