

Conditions for Grant of Hurricane related STA request
IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20050923-00181
Date: September 23, 2005



Iridium Satellite LLC's (Iridium's) September 23, 2005 request for special temporary authority (STA), IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20050923-00181, IS GRANTED.¹ Accordingly, Iridium is authorized for 30 days commencing October 2, 2005 through November 1, 2005 to provide Mobile Satellite Service (MSS) in the 1616-1618.25 MHz band in support of Hurricane Katrina recovery on an unprotected non-interference basis in accordance with the terms, conditions and technical specifications set forth in the Commission's rules and this document.

File # SAT-STA-20050923-00181
Call Sign SA/10 Grant Date 9/23/05
(or other identifier)
From 10/2/05 To 11/1/05
Team Dates
Approved: Cassandra C. Thomas

1. Iridium shall coordinate all of its operations so that no harmful interference shall be caused to any other lawfully operating satellites or radiocommunication system. Iridium shall cease operations immediately upon notification of such interference and inform the Commission in writing immediately of such an event.
2. Iridium is required to accept interference from other lawfully operating satellites or radiocommunication systems.
3. Any action taken or expense incurred as a result of operations pursuant to this special authority is solely at Iridium's own risk.
4. This STA may be terminated at the International Bureau's discretion, without a hearing, if conditions warrant. Under no circumstances may the facility(ies) authorized violate the terms of an international agreement or treaty. If an application for permanent authority is on file with the Commission, this action is taken without prejudice to that application. The applicant is required to post and/or retain a copy of this authorization as required by the Commission's Rules.
5. This grant is issued in accordance with emergency procedures put in place to provide communications in areas affected by the Hurricane. See The International Bureau Announces Procedures to Provide Emergency Communications in Areas Impacted by Hurricane Katrina, Public Notice (rel. Sept. 1, 2005).
6. This grant is issued pursuant to Section 0.261 of the Commission's rules on delegated authority, 47 C.F.R. § 0.261, and is effective immediately.

¹ On September 2, 2005, Iridium was granted an STA in support of Hurricane Katrina recovery. See IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20050901-00171. On September 23, 2005, Iridium sought to extend that authority and to expand it to provide support for Hurricane Rita. For administrative ease and to avoid confusion regarding the underlying rationale for each grant, we have created separate IBFS file numbers. One file is for the STA renewal granted in support of Hurricane Katrina recovery and the other file number is for the STA granted in support of Hurricane Rita recovery. See IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20050923-00180 (STA in support of Rita recovery for 30 days commencing September 23, 2005); SAT-STA-20050923-00181 (STA in support of Katrina recovery for 30 days commencing October 2 through November 1, 2005).



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September 23, 2005

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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Hon. Kevin J. Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Iridium Satellite LLC, Request for Special Temporary Authorization to Provide Mobile Satellite Service in the 1616-1618.25 MHz Band For An Additional 30 Days

Dear Chairman Martin:

Iridium Satellite LLC ("Iridium"), by its attorneys and pursuant to 25 C.F.R. § 25.120, hereby requests Special Temporary Authorization ("STA") to provide Mobile Satellite Service ("MSS") in the 1616-1618.25 MHz band for an additional 30 days—from October 2, 2005 through November 1, 2005.¹

As the FCC is aware, Hurricane Katrina recently caused extraordinary devastation along the Gulf coastline, including damage to communications infrastructure in the region. The Commission granted Iridium STA to operate in the 1616-1618.25 MHz band to ensure that Iridium would have sufficient spectrum to handle the extraordinary need for emergency communications in that area.

Now, a second, even more powerful hurricane, Hurricane Rita, is heading toward the same region. Public safety officials, relief organizations, businesses and the public will continue to need reliable telephone service as they respond to this second natural disaster, in addition to their on-going efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina. Iridium thus seeks to continue to utilize the 1616-1618.25 MHz band on a temporary basis to meet existing demand caused by Hurricane Katrina and new demand likely to result from Hurricane Rita.

Grant of this STA request is not expected to cause harmful interference to the Globalstar satellite system, which is currently licensed to occupy the same spectrum. To the extent that harmful interference occurs, Iridium understands and

¹ Public Notice, Policy Branch Information, Actions Taken, Report No. SAT-00318, File No. SAT-STA-20050901-00171 (Sept. 9, 2005).

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accepts that Iridium may be required by the FCC to cease operating in the 1616-1618.25 MHz frequency band.

Grant of the requested STA would be consistent with FCC precedent. In the past, the FCC has granted Iridium STA to use additional L-band frequencies to support the vital communications needs of the United States.² In those instances, the FCC expressly determined that "allowing Iridium to provide essential communications services" would "serve the public interest."³ Given the extraordinary circumstances of these two hurricanes, prompt grant of the requested STA likewise would serve the public interest.

Please direct any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jennifer D. Hindin

Jennifer D. Hindin
Counsel to Iridium Satellite LLC

cc: Daniel Gonzalez
Emily Willeford
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² *Iridium Constellation, LLC and Iridium US LP, Request for Special Temporary Authorization*, 18 FCC Rcd 11564, ¶ 10 (Int'l Bur. 2003).

³ *Id.*