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FILED/ACCEPTED

MAR 2 5 2008

Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary

March 25, 2008

Via HAND DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

## Re: EchoStar Corporation, Status Report File No. SAT-STA-20070926-00133

Dear Ms. Dortch,

EchoStar Corporation hereby submits for the public file a redacted version of a Status Report describing the operating status of the EchoStar 3 satellite and the status of the replacement satellite for the EchoStar 3 satellite. An unredacted version of this report is being submitted separately with a request for confidential treatment pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457 and 0.459.

Yours sincerely,

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Pantelis Michalopoulos *Counsel for EchoStar Corporation* 

cc: Robert Nelson, International Bureau

### REDACTED FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

## Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

FILED/ACCEPTED

MAR 2 5 2008

<sup>E</sup>ederal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary

In the Matter of	)
	)
EchoStar Corporation	)
	)
Application for Extension and Modification of	)
Special Temporary Authority to Operate	)
Direct Broadcast Satellite Service over	)
Channels 23 and 24 at the 61.5° W.L. Orbital	)
Location	)

File No. SAT-STA-20070926-00133

# STATUS REPORT

EchoStar Corporation submits a report on (1) the status of the replacement satellite for

EchoStar 3, and (2) the operating status of the EchoStar 3 satellite (including any change since

July 3, 2007).<sup>1</sup> This report relates to EchoStar's Special Temporary Authority to operate on the

two unassigned DBS channels at the 61.5° W.L. orbital location.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Due to an administrative oversight, EchoStar did not file a status report on February 11, 2008. *See EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation*, File No. SAT-STA-20070926-00133, Stamp Grant (Nov. 14, 2007) (*"Stamp Grant"*). EchoStar requests that the Bureau accept this late filed report, which provides all pertinent information with respect to EchoStar's current and planned use of the 61.5° W.L. orbital location from November 2007 to today. 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(c). EchoStar also informed the Commission of the replacement satellite's status in its December 21, 2007 application to launch the AMC-14 satellite and operate it at 61.5° W.L. *See* File No. SAT-LOA-20071221-00183 (granted Mar. 12, 2008).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Special Temporary Authority was granted to EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation ("ESOC"). *Stamp Grant.* On January 1, 2008, ESOC assigned its STA to EchoStar Corporation (formerly known as EchoStar Holding Corporation) as part of a *pro forma* corporate reorganization and spin-off. *See* Public Notice, DA 07-4655 (rel. Nov. 16, 2007) (consenting to the transfer of several authorizations as part of the Spin-Off).

*EchoStar 3.* The operating status of the EchoStar 3 satellite has not changed since EchoStar last reported on its status on July 3, 2007.<sup>3</sup> The latest Spacecraft Health Report for EchoStar 3 is attached as <u>Confidential Attachment 1</u>.

*Replacement Satellite.* The AMC-14 satellite was designed as a replacement for EchoStar 3 at 61.5° W.L.,<sup>4</sup> and was launched on March 14, 2008, pursuant to authority granted by the Commission on March 12, 2008.<sup>5</sup> Due to an anomaly during the fourth stage of the launch, however, the satellite has not reached its intended orbit. As a result of this anomaly, EchoStar is working with SES Americom (the owner of AMC-14) and Lockheed Martin (the manufacturer of AMC-14) to evaluate the options available to the parties with respect to the AMC-14 satellite and the future of the 61.5° W.L. orbital location.

EchoStar continues to seek a satellite fleet design that will maximize its ability to compete with cable operators and DIRECTV, and to provide as much bandwidth-hungry High Definition ("HD") services as possible to consumers.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Linda Kinney</u> Linda Kinney Bradley Gillen **EchoStar Corporation** 1233 20<sup>th</sup> Street N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036-2396 (202) 293-0981

March 25, 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Confidential Letter from Pantelis Michalopoulos, Counsel to EchoStar Satellite Operating Corp., to Marlene H. Dortch, *filed in* IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20070329-00058 (filed July 3, 2007).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> File No. SAT-LOA-20071221-00183 (granted Mar. 12, 2008).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *Id*.

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# **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1**

(Redacted)