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December 30, 2009

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-20090821-00092

Dear Ms. Dortch:

EchoStar Corporation hereby submits for the public file a redacted version of its Status Report describing the operating status of the EchoStar 3 satellite and the status of the replacement plans for that 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,

Pantelis Michalopoulos /xyz

Pantelis Michalopoulos
Counsel for EchoStar Corporation

cc:
Robert Nelson, International Bureau

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

In the Matter of)
)
)

EchoStar Corporation)
)
)

Application for Renewal of Special)
Temporary Authority to Operate a Direct)
Broadcast Satellite (“DBS”) Service over)
Channels 23 and 24 at the 61.5° W.L.)
Orbital Location)
)
)
)

File No. SAT-STA-20090821-00092

STATUS REPORT

EchoStar Corporation (“EchoStar”) submits a report on (1) the operating status of the EchoStar 3 satellite (including any change since June 30, 2009), and (2) the status of the replacement satellite for EchoStar 3. This report is being filed pursuant to conditions 4 and 5 of EchoStar’s Special Temporary Authority to operate on the two unassigned DBS channels at the 61.5° W.L. orbital location.¹

EchoStar 3. As previously reported to the Commission, in late August 2009, EchoStar 3 suffered the loss of an additional transponder pair (2 Traveling Wave Tube Amplifiers). However, this loss did not result in any changes in the service provided from the 61.5° W.L. orbital location.

Replacement Satellite. Following the failed launch of the AMC-14 satellite, which had been identified to replace EchoStar 3, EchoStar has made plans for the launch to that slot of EchoStar 15, a 32-transponder-capable DBS satellite that will effectively replace EchoStar 3 at

¹ See Stamp Grant at conditions 4 and 5, File No. SAT-STA-20090821-00092 (granted Dec. 1, 2009).

61.5° W.L.² EchoStar 15 is expected to be ready for launch by the fourth quarter of 2010. Its launch will help EchoStar's customer, DISH Network Corporation, to meet increased consumer demand for High-Definition ("HD") services, as well as the Commission's HD broadcast carriage requirements.³

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Linda Kinney
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December 30, 2009

² EchoStar has previously notified the Commission construction of the EchoStar 15 satellite has commenced, at EchoStar's own risk. See 47 C.F.R. § 25.113(f).

³ See 47 C.F.R. § 76.66(k)(2); *Carriage of Digital Television Broadcast Signals: Amendment to Part 76 of the Commission's Rules*, Second Report and Order 23 FCC Rcd. 5351 (2008).

CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT- REDACTED

-- NOT FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION--