



File # SAT-STA-2010 0430-00086

Call Sign S2433 Grant Date 05/12/10

(or other identifier)

Term Dates period of 30 days From 05/20/10 To:

Approved by OMB 3060-0678

Approved: Stephen J. Duall

Stephen J. Duall Chief, Satellite Policy Branch

Date & Time Filed: Apr 30 2010 11:07:54:140AM
File Number: SAT-STA-20100430-00086
Callsign:

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
APPLICATION FOR SPACE STATION SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Enter a description of this application to identify it on the main menu:
S2433 (AMC-11) STA Request to Drift

1. Applicant

Name: SES Americom, Inc. Phone Number: (202) 478-7137
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Country: USA Zipcode: 20036
Attention: Daniel C.H. Mah

2. Contact	
<b>Name:</b> Karis A. Hastings	<b>Phone Number:</b> (202) 637-5767
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<b>Street:</b> 555 Thirteenth Street, NW	<b>E-Mail:</b> kahastings@hhlaw.com
<b>City:</b> Washington	<b>State:</b> DC
<b>Country:</b> USA	<b>Zipcode:</b> 20004 -1109
<b>Attention:</b>	<b>Relationship:</b>
(If your application is related to an application filed with the Commission, enter either the file number or the IB Submission ID of the related application. Please enter only one.)	
3. Reference File Number or Submission ID	
4a. Is a fee submitted with this application?	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> If Yes, complete and attach FCC Form 159. If No, indicate reason for fee exemption (see 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1114).	
<input type="radio"/> Governmental Entity <input type="radio"/> Noncommercial educational licensee	
<input type="radio"/> Other (please explain):	
4b. Fee Classification    CRY – Space Station (Geostationary)	
5. Type Request	
<input type="radio"/> Change Station Location <input type="radio"/> Extend Expiration Date <input checked="" type="radio"/> Other	
6. Temporary Orbit Location	7. Requested Extended Expiration Date

8. Description (If the complete description does not appear in this box, please go to the end of the form to view it in its entirety.)

SES Americom, Inc. seeks special temporary authority to drift C-band satellite AMC-11, call sign S2433, up to 0.5 degrees to the east and west of its assigned orbital location of 131 W.L. for a period of thirty days, commencing on May 20, 2010.

9. By checking Yes, the undersigned certifies that neither applicant nor any other party to the application is subject to a denial of Federal benefits that includes FCC benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. Section 862, because of a conviction for possession or distribution of a controlled substance. See 47 CFR 1.2002(b) for the meaning of "party to the application" for these purposes.  Yes  No

10. Name of Person Signing  
Daniel C.H. Mah

11. Title of Person Signing  
Regulatory Counsel

12. Please supply any need attachments.

Attachment 1: Attachment

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

WILLFUL FALSE STATEMENTS MADE ON THIS FORM ARE PUNISHABLE BY FINE AND / OR IMPRISONMENT  
(U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001), AND/OR REVOCATION OF ANY STATION AUTHORIZATION  
(U.S. Code, Title 47, Section 312(a)(1)), AND/OR FORFEITURE (U.S. Code, Title 47, Section 503).

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

In the Matter of Application of )  
 )  
SES AMERICOM, INC. ) File No. SAT-STA-\_\_\_\_\_  
 )  
For Special Temporary Authority to )  
Drift and Operate AMC-11 ) Call Sign S2433  
 )  
 )

*EXPEDITED ACTION REQUESTED*

**APPLICATION OF SES AMERICOM, INC.**

SES Americom, Inc. (“SES Americom,” doing business as “SES WORLD SKIES”<sup>1</sup>) hereby respectfully requests special temporary authority for a period of thirty days, starting on May 20, 2010, to perform Tracking, Telemetry, Command, and Monitoring (“TTC&M”) in order to drift the AMC-11 C-band satellite up to 0.5 degrees to the east and west of its assigned orbital location of 131° W.L., *i.e.* between 130.5° and 131.5° W.L., and to operate the satellite’s communications payload throughout this period.<sup>2</sup> The purpose of the requested flexibility is to enable SES WORLD SKIES to maneuver AMC-11, as necessary, to mitigate potential interference from the PanAmSat Licensee Corp. (“PanAmSat”) Galaxy 15 satellite (call sign S2387), which recently suffered an anomaly and which is drifting in an uncontrolled manner in the direction of AMC-11. Grant of the requested authority and any necessary waiver will

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<sup>1</sup> On September 7, 2009, SES S.A. announced that the newly integrated operations of its two indirect subsidiaries, New Skies Satellites B.V. and SES Americom would be conducted under a single brand name, SES WORLD SKIES. The new brand name does not affect the underlying legal entities that hold Commission authorizations or U.S. market access rights.

<sup>2</sup> To the extent required, SES WORLD SKIES requests a waiver of the requirement to maintain a Commission-licensed spacecraft within +/- 0.05 degrees of its assigned station-keeping position. *See* 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.3 (waiver for good cause), 25.210(j) (east/west station-keeping).

serve the public interest by allowing SES WORLD SKIES to take certain steps, as necessary, to minimize service disruptions for customers on AMC-11 as Galaxy 15 approaches and passes through the 131° W.L. orbital location.

As the Commission is aware, because of an anomaly that occurred on or about April 5, the Galaxy 15 satellite is currently drifting eastward in an uncontrolled manner from its assigned orbital location of 133° W.L. at a very slow but accelerating rate of 0.04-0.1 degrees per day. SES WORLD SKIES understands that PanAmSat is currently undertaking efforts to regain control of Galaxy 15 and, if that fails, will begin taking more aggressive efforts to disable the payload on the satellite starting on May 3.<sup>3</sup> If those efforts are unsuccessful, Galaxy 15 is expected to come within 0.8 degrees of the AMC-11 satellite at 131° W.L. on or about May 18 with its payload active, and to pass through AMC-11's station-keeping box on or about May 31. Because Galaxy 15 operates on the same C-band frequencies as AMC-11, the potential for harmful interference into AMC-11 operations is significant as Galaxy 15 approaches. There will also be an increased risk of an in-orbit collision as Galaxy 15 passes through AMC-11's station-keeping box.

SES WORLD SKIES is exploring a number of different options to address these matters in conjunction with its customers and Intelsat. One such method is to ensure a 0.3 to 0.5 degree orbital separation between AMC-11 and the active Galaxy 15 as it approaches and passes through 131° W.L. Specifically, AMC-11 would first drift to the east as Galaxy 15 approaches from west, and then be maneuvered to the west of 131° W.L. as Galaxy 15 continues on its passage east. PanAmSat managed a successful transition of traffic from Galaxy 15 to Galaxy 12

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<sup>3</sup> See File Nos. SES-STA-20100423-00473, SAT-STA-20100426-00084.

by operating Galaxy 12 outside of the 133° W.L. box (with Commission authority)<sup>4</sup> for a period of time to maintain a minimum separation between the satellites. SES WORLD SKIES hereby requests Commission authority to permit use of the same approach. This option also has the virtue of facilitating the avoidance of in-orbit collision between the satellites.

Grant of the requested authority and any requisite waiver will serve the public interest by enabling SES WORLD SKIES to take these steps, as necessary, to minimize service disruptions for customers on the AMC-11 satellite resulting from interference caused by Galaxy 15. It will also enable SES to perform any maneuvers needed to avoid in-orbit collision with the Galaxy 15 satellite. Grant of the requested authority will not adversely affect other authorized operations. AMC-11 will not be located at the same orbital location as another satellite or at an orbital location that has an overlapping stationkeeping volume with another satellite. There are no C-band satellites assigned to operate within +/- 0.5 degrees of 131° W.L. The closest C-band spacecraft to the east of AMC-11 is Galaxy 13 at 127° W.L., and to the west is Galaxy 12, which has been deployed to 133° W.L. to carry the traffic previously carried by Galaxy 15.<sup>5</sup> SES WORLD SKIES does not expect that its proposed operations outside of its assigned station-keeping box will cause harmful interference to either adjacent satellites and will coordinate the proposed relocation and operation of AMC-11 with PanAmSat's adjacent operations.

SES WORLD SKIES hereby certifies that no party to this application is subject to a denial of federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 862.

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<sup>4</sup> See File No. SAT-STA-20100408-00070 (Call Sign S2422), grant-stamped Apr. 9, 2010.

<sup>5</sup> See *id.*

SES WORLD SKIES waives any claim to the use of any particular frequency or of the electromagnetic spectrum as against the regulatory power of the United States because of the previous use of the same, whether by license or otherwise, and requests an authorization in accordance with this application.

For the foregoing reasons, SES WORLD SKIES seeks temporary authority for a period of up to 30 days beginning on May 20, 2010, to drift and operate AMC-11 between 130.5° W.L. and 131.5° W.L., using both the TTC&M and communications payloads on AMC-11 throughout this process. At the end of this period, AMC-11 will be returned to its assigned orbital location of 131° W.L.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
SES AMERICOM, INC.

By: /s/ Daniel C.H. Mah

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Dated: April 30, 2010