

SIRIUS XM

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June 11, 2010

Via IBFS

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

**Re: Sirius XM Radio Inc.
Request for Extension of 180-Day Special Temporary Authority to Operate
Eight Low Power Terrestrial Repeaters at Various Locations
File No. SAT-STA-20091109-00118**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Section 25.120(b)(2) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 25.120(b)(2), Sirius XM Radio Inc. ("Sirius XM"), a satellite radio licensee in the Satellite Digital Audio Radio Service, hereby requests extension of the above-referenced Special Temporary Authority ("STA") to operate in its licensed frequency band multiple low power terrestrial repeaters, each of which has average Effective Isotropically Radiated Power ("EIRP") of up to 2000 watts.¹ Specifically, the application sought authority to operate one new low power repeater in the former Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. ("Sirius") frequency band (2320-2332.5 MHz) and seven new low power repeaters in the former XM Radio Inc. frequency band (2332.5-2345 MHz). Sirius XM requests renewal of this STA for a period of 180 days or until the Commission issues a

¹ The Commission recently adopted formal rules for satellite radio terrestrial repeaters. Amendment of Part 27 of the Commission's Rules to Govern the Operation of Wireless Communications Services in the 2.3 GHz Band; Establishment of Rules and Policies for the Digital Audio Radio Satellite Service in the 2310-2360 MHz Frequency Band, *Report and Order and Second Report and Order*, FCC 10-82, Para. 264 (released May 20, 2010) (the "*May 20 Order*"). The *May 20 Order* authorizes the International Bureau "to continue to grant STAs for new or modified repeaters ... [until] any permanent authorization to operate SDARS repeaters becomes effective."

blanket license for repeaters used in connection with satellite radio. Absent renewal, this STA is scheduled to expire on June 14, 2010.²

Sirius XM currently operates these repeaters pursuant to the STA granted by the International Bureau on December 16, 2009, File No. SAT-STA-20091109-00118. Sirius XM has not changed technical parameters for the repeaters since the original grant of the STA and is not herein requesting modification of any of those parameters. Renewing this STA will serve the public interest by enabling Sirius XM to continue providing quality service to subscribers throughout the United States.

Sirius XM has been using the repeaters authorized in the above-referenced STA for over 180 days and is not aware of any incidents where the equipment has caused any interference to other radio services. Sirius XM emphasizes that the repeaters operate at a power level of not more than 2000 watts. As the Bureau acknowledged in granting Sirius XM's original repeater STA requests, and the WCS licensees have confirmed, operating terrestrial repeaters at an EIRP of 2000 watts or less does not pose interference concerns.³

Sirius XM will continue to comply with the conditions the Commission imposed in granting the above-referenced STA to operate the repeaters. These conditions and the technical parameters of the repeaters have provided sufficient protection to other radio services. Therefore, prompt grant of Sirius XM's extension request will allow for the continued reception of the SDARS signal by subscribers across the country.


² Because this request is timely, pursuant to Section 1.62 of the Rules, this STA will continue in effect without further action by the Commission until such time as the Commission shall make a final determination with respect to this request. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 1.62.

³ *See XM Radio, Inc., Application for Special Temporary Authority to Operate Satellite Digital Audio Radio Service Complimentary Terrestrial Repeaters, Order and Authorization*, 16 FCC Rcd. 16781 ¶ 12 (“The comments from WCS licensees express concern about blanketing interference from DARS repeaters that operate with an Equivalent Isotropically Radiated Power (EIRP) above 2 kW.”). Moreover, in March 2007, the WCS Coalition said that it will defer from objecting to STA requests that propose operations of no more than 2,000 watts EIRP, even if they do not specify peak or average EIRP, provided that grant of the STA (i) is conditioned on operation on a non-interference basis; and (ii) is subject to the condition that the issue of peak versus average EIRP will be addressed in the pending DARS rulemaking (IB Docket No. 95-91). *See* Letter from Paul J. Sinderbrand, Counsel to the WCS Coalition, to Ms. Helen Domenici, FCC, File No. SAT-STA-20061207-00145 (March 19, 2007). Sirius XM agrees to these conditions. In the *May 20 Order*, the Commission concluded “that SDARS terrestrial repeaters can operate at an average EIRP of 12 kw with maximum PAPR of 13 dB without causing harmful interference to WCS base station receivers.” *Id.* at Para. 243.

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
June 11, 2010
Page 3

Please direct any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,



James S. Blitz
Vice President, Regulatory Counsel

cc: Stephen Duall, FCC International Bureau
Jay Whaley, FCC International Bureau
Sankar Persaud, FCC International Bureau