

S2129 SAT-STA-20110318-00057
IB2011000828 DG Consents Sub, Inc.
QuickBird



Call Sign S2129 Grant Date 03/21/11
(or other identifier)

From 03/22/11 Term Dates Period of
To: 60 days Approved by OMB
3060-0678

GRANTED*

International Bureau

Nathan J. Dual

Approved:

Stephen J. Denil

To:

Chief Satellite Policy Branch

Date & Time Filed: Mar 18 2011 5:08:31:463PM
File Number: SAT-STA-20110318-00057 *without prejudice to
BFS File No. SAT-MOD-201122-00243
Callsign:

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
APPLICATION FOR SPACE STATION SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Enter a description of this application to identify it on the main menu:
QuickBird Pre-Grant STA

1. Applicant

Name:	DG Consents Sub, Inc.	Phone Number:	303-682-3800
DBA Name:		Fax Number:	303-684-4340
Street:	1601 Dry Creek Drive	E-Mail:	scedars@digitalglobe.com
City:	Longmont	State:	CO
Country:	USA	Zipcode:	80503
Attention:	Mr. Seth Cedars		-

2. Contact		Name: Stephen D. Baruch	Phone Number: 202-416-6782
		Company: Lerman Senter PLLC	Fax Number: 202-429-4626
		Street: 2000 K Street, NW	E-Mail: sbaruch@lermansenter.com
		Suite 600	
		City: Washington	State: DC
		Country: USA	Zipcode: 20006 -
		Attention:	Relationship: Legal Counsel
(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 SATMOD2010112200243 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 checked="" type="radio"/> Noncommercial educational licensee <input type="radio"/> Other (please explain):			
4b. Fee Classification CXW – Space Station (Non-Geostationary)			
5. Type Request			
<input type="radio"/> Change Station Location <input checked="" type="radio"/> Extend Expiration Date <input checked="" type="radio"/> Other			
6. Temporary Orbit Location		7. Requested Extended Expiration Date	

<p>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.)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; min-height: 100px;"> <p>Request 60-day pre-grant STA for SAT-MOD-20101122-00243 to allow orbit-increase proposed in the modification application to begin on March 22, 2010. See Exhibit A</p> </div>						
<p>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.</p>						
<p>10. Name of Person Signing Yancey L. Spruill</p>		<p>11. Title of Person Signing Treasurer</p>				
<p>12. Please supply any need attachments.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Attachment 1: Exhibit A</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Attachment 2:</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Attachment 3:</td> </tr> </table>				Attachment 1: Exhibit A	Attachment 2:	Attachment 3:
Attachment 1: Exhibit A	Attachment 2:	Attachment 3:				
<p>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).</p>						

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THE FOREGOING NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995, PUBLIC LAW 104-13, OCTOBER 1, 1995, 44 U.S.C. SECTION 3507.

EXHIBIT A
DG Consents Sub, Inc.
Request for STA
March 18, 2011

Narrative Description

DG Consents Sub, Inc. (“DigitalGlobe”) hereby requests special temporary authorization, on a pre-grant basis commencing March 22, 2011, to increase the orbit of its QuickBird satellite as it has proposed in its pending modification of license application (File No. SAT-MOD-20101122-00243) (“Modification Application”). In the Modification Application, DigitalGlobe proposes to increase the orbital altitude of its QuickBird satellite, the longest-operating satellite in its three-satellite non-geostationary satellite orbit (“non-GSO”) Earth Exploration-Satellite Service (“EESS”) system, to 496 kilometers from its present altitude of 450 kilometers.

With this 46 kilometer increase in the orbital altitude of the near-circular QuickBird satellite, the mission life of the spacecraft can be extended by more than one year. This is significant, as QuickBird was launched in 2001, and has been the cornerstone of DigitalGlobe’s constellation for nearly a decade. If DigitalGlobe is to take advantage of the life-extending benefits of an increase in orbit altitude for QuickBird, however, it needs to begin orbit-raising maneuvers as soon as possible, and preferably on or about March 22, 2011.

The Modification Application was accepted for filing in early December, and no comments were filed in response to the public notice. DigitalGlobe informed the Commission in the Modification Application that it had provided information pertaining to post-mission disposal of QuickBird in relation to the new orbit parameters to the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (“NOAA”), and that it expected favorable action by NOAA under the applicable NOAA regulations. NOAA has now approved the change in DigitalGlobe’s post-mission disposal plans for QuickBird (referred to by NOAA as “QuickBird 2”). *See Letter dated March 3, 2011, from Mary E. Kizca, Assistant Administrator for Satellite and Information Services, NOAA, to Alison Alfers, DigitalGlobe Inc., NOAA File: DG-2010-A15.*

DigitalGlobe incorporates by reference all of the technical showings it made in the Modification Application (both on Form 312, Schedule S and in Exhibit 43), and confirms that operation under this STA will not vary from what it proposed there. In recognition of the fact that the incorporated technical plan of the Modification Application that DigitalGlobe would use for the STA has been accepted for filing and placed on public notice, DigitalGlobe hereby seeks a 60-day STA to conduct orbit-raising and operate QuickBird at its new orbit – on a non-harmful interference basis and at its own risk – pending final action on the Modification Application.

The public interest will be advanced by extension of the life of QuickBird and continued provision of the services that DigitalGlobe has provided over QuickBird since 2001.

For these reasons, DigitalGlobe respectfully requests a pre-grant STA for its Modification Application in File No. SAT-MOD-20101122-00243, and asks that the STA be issued effective March 22, 2011 and run for 60 days or until the Modification Application is granted.