

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

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In the Matter of )

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**ECHOSTAR SATELLITE OPERATING ) File No. SAT-STA-2011\_\_\_\_\_**

**CORPORATION ) Call Sign S2741**

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Application for Special Temporary Authority )

to Operate EchoStar 3 as an )

In-Orbit Spare at 61.45° W.L. )

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**APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY**

EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation (“ESOC”) hereby requests special temporary authority (“STA”) to operate the EchoStar 3 satellite at 61.45° W.L. as an in-orbit spare for the remainder of the STA period granted to ESOC’s parent, EchoStar Corporation (“EchoStar”) – i.e., until November 3, 2011.<sup>1</sup> EchoStar received authority to assign the EchoStar 3 satellite and all associated authorizations to ESOC on a *pro forma* basis on April 21, 2011, and has consummated the transaction.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See Stamp Grant, File No. SAT-STA-20110225-00038 (granted Apr. 7, 2011).

<sup>2</sup> See File No. SAT-ASG-20110224-00033 (granted Apr. 21, 2011). As noted in EchoStar Corporation’s application for *pro forma* assignment of the satellite, it received the approval of its board of directors to assign its space station and earth station facilities upon Commission consent. See File No. SAT-ASG-20110224-00033, Narrative at 2 (filed Feb. 24, 2011). EchoStar filed a notice of consummation of the *pro forma* transaction on May 23, 2011. See Letter from Pantelis Michalopoulos, Counsel for EchoStar Corporation, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC (May 23, 2011), *filed in* File Nos. SAT-ASG-20110224-00033, SAT-ASG-20110224-00034, SAT-ASG-20110224-00035.

As the Commission is aware, on July 10, 2010, EchoStar successfully launched EchoStar 15, a 32-transponder Direct Broadcast Satellite (“DBS”) that, in light of the loss of AMC-14,<sup>3</sup> is effectively replacing EchoStar 3.<sup>4</sup> EchoStar 15 became fully operational on August 5, 2010. To accommodate testing and operation of EchoStar 15 at 61.55° W.L., and the concurrent and efficient operation of EchoStar’s other satellites at the nominal 61.5° W.L. orbital location, the EchoStar 3 satellite was moved to 61.45° W.L. EchoStar 3, along with EchoStar 12, will supplement service provided by EchoStar 15, as needed, to maintain regular programming. The continued operation of EchoStar 3 ensures that ESOC’s customer, DISH Network L.L.C., will be able to continue providing DBS service to consumers without any service interruptions.

**I. THIS REQUEST IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND WILL NOT CAUSE HARMFUL INTERFERENCE**

For the same reason EchoStar was granted STA to operate EchoStar 3 as an in-orbit spare, so too is this request in the public interest. Grant of this application will ensure safe station-keeping margins for each of the satellites that are located at the nominal 61.5° W.L. orbital location. It also will not cause harmful interference, because EchoStar 3 has moved 0.05 degrees to the east, farther away from the nearest non-EchoStar DBS satellite, DIRECTV 1R, which is operating at 72.5° W.L. Furthermore, while EchoStar 3 is operating at 61.45° W.L., it will continue to abide by the conditions set forth in EchoStar’s grant.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> See Letter from Pantelis Michalopoulos, Counsel for EchoStar Corporation, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC (Dec. 30, 2008), *filed in* File No. SAT-STA-20080923-00193).

<sup>4</sup> See Stamp Grant, File No. SAT-LOA-20100310-00043 (granted July 1, 2010).

<sup>5</sup> See Stamp Grant, File No. SAT-STA-20110225-00038 (granted Apr. 7, 2011).

