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December 2, 2011

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

Re: EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation, Notice of the Commencement of Inclined Orbit Operations for EchoStar 6 at 76.95° W.L., File No. SAT-STA-20111004-00194, Call Sign S2232

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Section 25.280 of the Commission's rules,¹ EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation ("EchoStar") hereby notifies the Commission that the EchoStar 6 satellite will commence inclined orbit operations at the 76.95° W.L. orbital location on December 12, 2011. Operating EchoStar 6 at an inclined orbit will extend the satellite's operational life, enabling EchoStar to use the satellite to provide quality local-into-local and Spanish-language programming to U.S. customers for an extended period of time. EchoStar 6 currently operates at 76.95° W.L. under special temporary authority,² pending EchoStar's application to transfer the satellite to QuetzSat, S. de R.L. de C.V., which will operate the satellite under Mexican authority.³ The satellite will initially operate at an incline of the licensed +/-0.05°, and will be allowed to grow to +/-0.5° after which point inclination will be maintained at that value. EchoStar may decide at any point to allow inclination to continue to grow further increasing the spacecraft's usable life. The expected end-of-life for the EchoStar 6 satellite will be extended to Feb 2013 with an uncertainty at this time of up to 6 months. This date takes into account both the

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 25.280.

² See Stamp Grant, File No. SAT-STA-20111004-00194 (granted Oct. 13, 2011).

³ See Application for the Transfer of EchoStar 6 to Mexican Authority, File No. SAT-T/C-20110314-00054 (filed Mar. 14, 2011).

