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



Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority to Drift Horizons 2

Call Sign: S2423

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC ("Intelsat") herein requests a grant of Special Temporary Authority ("STA")<sup>1</sup> for 60 days, commencing November 15, 2011, to begin drifting its Horizons 2 satellite from its current location of 74.05° W.L.<sup>2</sup> to 84.85° E.L. Intelsat has a pending request to modify the license of Horizons 2 to authorize its permanent operation at 84.85° E.L.<sup>3</sup>

In its pending modification application, Intelsat requests Commission approval to relocate Horizons 2 starting December 2011 and begin operating the satellite at that location in February/March 2012.<sup>4</sup> Traffic transition from Horizons 2 to other satellites is proceeding more quickly than anticipated, however, which will allow Intelsat to begin drifting the satellite starting November 15, 2011.

During the drift of Horizons 2 from 74.05° W.L. to 84.85° E.L., Intelsat will utilize only the satellite's TT&C frequencies and will coordinate the drift with all potentially affected operators. The specific TT&C frequencies are as follows:

Uplink:

14000.5 MHz (H or LHCP) and 14499.5 MHz (V or LHCP)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Intelsat has filed this STA request, an FCC Form 159 and an \$860.00 filing fee electronically via the International Bureau's Filing System.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Application of PanAmSat H-2 Licensee Corp. to Modify License, File No. SAT-MOD-20070628-00090 (stamp grant issued Nov. 30, 2007 by Andrea Kelly) and Application of PanAmSat H-2 Licensee Corp. to Amend Pending Application, File No. SAT-AMD-20070731-00108 (stamp grant issued Nov. 30, 2007 by Andrea Kelly).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Intelsat License LLC Application to Modify License of Horizons 2, File No. SAT-MOD-20110928-00190 (filed Sept. 28, 2011).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See id. at 2.

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Downlink:

12196.0 MHz and 12198.625 MHz (H or RHCP)

Grant of this STA request will serve the public interest by allowing Intelsat to begin drifting Horizons 2 earlier, thus allowing the satellite to drift more slowly. This, in turn, preserves fuel, which results in a longer operational life for the satellite to serve customers at 84.85° E.L.

In addition, grant of this STA request will not result in increased risk of harmful interference. As noted above, Intelsat will operate only the above listed TT&C frequencies during the drift, and will coordinate its TT&C transmissions with operators of satellites in the drift path. Should any interference occur during the drift, Intelsat will take all reasonable steps to eliminate such interference.

For the reasons set forth herein, Intelsat respectfully requests that the Commission grant this request.

Sincerely,

Susan H. Crandall

**Assistant General Counsel** 

**Intelsat Corporation** 

Cc: Stephen Duall Jay Whaley