

December 19, 2011

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



Re: Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authority for
Galaxy 26
Call Sign: S2469

Dear Ms. Dortch:

At the request of the International Bureau staff, Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) herein requests a 30-day extension -- from January 5, 2012 through February 4, 2012 -- of the Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) ¹ previously granted Intelsat to continue operating the Galaxy 26 satellite (Call Sign S2469) at 50.0° E.L. pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the STA granted December 8, 2011. ²

On December 6, 2011, the FCC’s International Bureau (“Bureau”) granted Intelsat STA to continue operating the Galaxy 26 satellite at 50.0° E.L. with a condition that “Intelsat must operate Galaxy 26 at or below the BSS PFD limits specified in the ITU Radio Regulations, Appendix 30, Annex 1, Sections 1(a) and 4, for protection of co-frequency BSS and terrestrial operations.” This condition limited power to a level insufficient to support existing service. Intelsat therefore sought the STA granted December 8, 2011 in order to provide the customer with sufficient time to transition its service. Intelsat seeks this extension in order to provide the customer with additional transition time.

As the Commission is aware, Galaxy 26 currently serves a U.S. military customer in the Middle East region. The entire capacity of the satellite is used on a daily basis to support multiple simultaneous unmanned aerial vehicle (“UAV”) flights. Intelsat’s customer does not have a readily available alternative and continued operations are required to protect U.S. national security interests. Grant of the requested STA extension will serve the public interest by providing time for a safe and orderly transition of service, in coordination with Intelsat’s customer and Al Yah Satellite Communications Company PrJSC (“Yahsat”).

¹ Intelsat has filed this STA request, an FCC Form 159 and an \$860.00 filing fee electronically via the International Bureau’s Filing System.

² See *Policy Branch Information; Actions Taken*, Report No. SAT-00827, File No. SAT-STA-20111207-00236 (Dec. 9, 2011) (Public Notice).

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Page 2

For the reasons set forth herein, Intelsat respectfully requests authority for the continued operation of Galaxy 26 as described in this STA extension request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. H. Crandall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "C".

Susan H. Crandall
Assistant General Counsel
Intelsat Corporation

cc: Bob Nelson
Kathryn Medley
Stephen Duall
Jay Whaley
John Janka, Counsel to Yahsat
Joslyn Read, New Skies Satellites B.V.