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16 October 2012

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

Re: Call Sign S2844 (SAT-STA-20120315-00049); Call Sign E080120 (File No. SES-STA-20120614-00508); Call Sign E980005 (File No. SES-STA-20120316-00275); Call Sign E070014 (File No. SES-STA-20120316-00274)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Section 1.65(a) of the Commission's rules,¹ EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation (along with its affiliates, "EchoStar") files this letter to update the above-referenced files with respect to the Commission on the status of the launch of the EchoStar 16 satellite. EchoStar had originally expected the satellite to launch in the Summer of 2012 and had requested space station and earth station special temporary authority ("STA") in the above-referenced applications for in-orbit testing consistent with this timeline.

Since EchoStar submitted those applications, however, the launch vehicle for the EchoStar 16 satellite, the Proton/Breeze M, experienced several delays in its manifest, including as a result of a launch failure this past August. EchoStar now expects EchoStar 16 to launch aboard the Proton/Breeze M rocket on or about November 20, 2012, and respectfully requests that STA be granted as requested in the above-referenced applications on or about that date consistent with the launch of the EchoStar 16 satellite.

Along with its request for special temporary authority ("STA") to perform in-orbit testing of EchoStar 16, EchoStar requested 60-day STA authority for three earth stations (Call Signs E080120, E980005, and E070014) to (1) perform telemetry, tracking, and control during orbital raising of EchoStar 16 to 67.1° W.L., (2) to perform in-orbit testing of EchoStar 16 at that

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 1.65(a).

location, and (3) upon completion of in-orbit testing, to relocate EchoStar 16 to 61.5° W.L.² Given the nearness of EchoStar 16's launch, EchoStar does not object to receipt of STA for 30 days for the referenced earth stations, instead of the 60 days requested.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

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cc: Stephen Duall
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² File Nos. SES-STA-20120614-00508 (Call Sign E080120); SES-STA-20120316-00275 (Call Sign E980005); SES-STA-20120316-00274 (Call Sign E070014).