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December 14, 2012

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

**Re: Call Sign S2844 (SAT-STA-20120315-00049)**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to condition 8 of the above-referenced Special Temporary Authority, EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation ("EchoStar") hereby notifies the Commission that the EchoStar 16 satellite commenced in-orbit testing ("IOT") at the 67.1° W.L. orbital location on December 2, 2012 and testing is expected to continue through the end of the month.

EchoStar is providing this written notification now as opposed to the date on which IOT began because of an error by external counsel's docketing system. Upon becoming aware of the oversight immediate steps were taken to submit this notification.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this submission.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

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cc: Stephen Duall  
Kathryn Medley