

S2135 SAT-STA-20170503-00070 IB2017001243
SES Americom, Inc.
AMC-4



File # SAT-STA-20170503-00070
Call Sign S2135 Grant Date 06/07/17
(or other identifier)
From 06/07/17 Term Dates period of
To: 60 days
Approved: Stephen J. Duall
Chief, Satellite Policy Branch

Approved by OMB
3060-0678

Date & Time Filed: May 3 2017 4:45:22:196PM
File Number: SAT-STA-20170503-00070
Callsign:

*with conditions

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
APPLICATION FOR SPACE STATION SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY


APPLICANT INFORMATION

Enter a description of this application to identify it on the main menu:
Request for Special Temporary Authority to Drift AMC-4 (Call Sign S2135) to 134.85 W.L.

1. Applicant

| | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Name: | SES Americom, Inc. | Phone Number: | 202-478-7143 |
| DBA Name: | | Fax Number: | 202-478-7111 |
| Street: | 1129 20th Street NW Suite 1000 | E-Mail: | petra.vorwig@ses.com |
| City: | Washington | State: | DC |
| Country: | USA | Zipcode: | 20036 - |
| Attention: | Ms Petra A Vorwig | | |

ATTACHMENT TO GRANT
SES Americom, Inc.
IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20170503-00070

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| IBFS File No(s): | SAT-STA-20170503-00070 | <p>GRANTED – With Conditions</p>  <p>International Bureau Satellite Division</p> |
| Licensee/Grantee: | SES Americom, Inc. | |
| Call Sign: | S2135 | |
| Satellite Name: | AMC-4 | |
| Orbital Location: (required station-keeping tolerance) | 134.9° W.L. (+/- 0.05 degrees east/west station keeping) | |
| Administration: | United States of America | |
| Nature of Service: | Telemetry, Tracking, and Command (TT&C) | |
| Scope of Grant: | Special temporary authority for a period of 60 days to conduct TT&C operations necessary to drift AMC-4 from its current location at the 67.0° W.L. orbital location to the 134.9° W.L. orbital location, using the following center frequencies: 3700.5 MHz, 4199.5 MHz, 11.702 GHz, and 12.198 GHz (space-to-Earth); and 6423.5 MHz (Earth-to-space). | |
| Service Area(s): | N/A | |
| Frequencies: | TT&C center frequencies: 3700.5 MHz, 4199.5 MHz, 11.702 GHz, and 12.198 GHz (space-to-Earth); 6423.5 MHz (Earth-to-space) | |

Unless otherwise specified herein, operations under this grant must comport with the legal and technical specifications set forth by the applicant or petitioner and with Federal Communication Commission's rules not waived herein. This grant is also subject to the following conditions:

1. Operations pursuant to this special temporary authority must be on an unprotected and non-harmful interference basis, i.e., the AMC-4 space station must not cause harmful interference to, and must not claim protection from interference caused to it by, any other lawfully operating station. In the event of any harmful interference, SES Americom must cease operations immediately upon notification of such interference, and must inform the Commission, in writing, immediately of such an event.
2. SES Americom must coordinate the operations of AMC-4 with existing geostationary space stations to ensure that no unacceptable interference results from its operations during drift to the 134.9° W.L. orbital location.
3. SES Americom must operate only the TT&C frequencies authorized for AMC-4 during the space station's drift from the 67.0° W.L. orbital location to the 134.9° W.L. orbital location.
4. SES Americom's operations at 134.9°W.L. must be limited to TT&C and must not include the provision of commercial services.
5. While at the 134.9° W.L. orbital location, SES Americom must maintain the AMC-4 spacecraft with an east/west longitudinal station-keeping tolerance of +/- 0.05 degrees.
6. Grant of this authorization is without prejudice to any Commission action on IBFS File No. SAT-MOD-20170518-00073.
7. Any action taken or expense incurred as a result of operations pursuant to this special temporary authority is solely at SES Americom's own risk.

Licensee/grantee is afforded thirty (30) days from the date of release of this action to decline the grant as conditioned. Failure to respond within this period will constitute formal acceptance of the grant as conditioned.


This action is taken pursuant to Section 0.261 of the Commission's rules on delegated authority, 47 C.F.R. § 0.261, and is effective upon release.

ATTACHMENT TO GRANT
SES Americom, Inc.
IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20170503-00070

Station licenses are subject to the conditions specified in Section 309(h) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 309(h).

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|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Action Date: | June 7, 2017 | |
| Term Dates | From: June 7, 2017 | To: period of 60 days |

Approved:


Stephen J. Duall
Chief, Satellite Policy Branch

2. Contact

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Name: | Karis Hastings | Phone Number: | 202-599-0975 |
| Company: | SatCom Law LLC | Fax Number: | |
| Street: | 1317 F St, NW Suite 400 | E-Mail: | karis@satcomlaw.com |
| City: | Washington | State: | DC |
| Country: | USA | Zipcode: | 20004 - |
| Attention: | | Relationship: | Legal Counsel |

(If your application is related to an application filed with the Commission, enter either the file number or the IB Submission ID of the related application. Please enter only one.)

3. Reference File Number or Submission ID

4a. Is a fee submitted with this application?

- If Yes, complete and attach FCC Form 159. If No, indicate reason for fee exemption (see 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1114).
- Governmental Entity Noncommercial educational licensee
- Other (please explain):

4b. Fee Classification CRY – Space Station (Geostationary)

5. Type Request

- Change Station Location Extend Expiration Date Other

6. Temporary Orbit Location
134.85 W.L.

7. Requested Extended Expiration Date

8. Description (If the complete description does not appear in this box, please go to the end of the form to view it in its entirety.)

SES Americom, Inc. (SES) requests special temporary authority for 60 days to relocate AMC-4 (Call Sign S2135) from 67.0 W.L. to 134.85 W.L. pending the filing of and action on a separate modification application. SES seeks authority to begin the drift by June 14, 2017. See attached narrative.

9. By checking Yes, the undersigned certifies that neither applicant nor any other party to the application is subject to a denial of Federal benefits that includes FCC benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. Section 862, because of a conviction for possession or distribution of a controlled substance. See 47 CFR 1.2002(b) for the meaning of "party to the application" for these purposes. Yes No

10. Name of Person Signing
Petra A. Vorwig

11. Title of Person Signing
Senior Legal & Regulatory Counsel

12. Please supply any need attachments.

Attachment 1: STA Narrative

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

WILLFUL FALSE STATEMENTS MADE ON THIS FORM ARE PUNISHABLE BY FINE AND / OR IMPRISONMENT
(U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001), AND/OR REVOCATION OF ANY STATION AUTHORIZATION
(U.S. Code, Title 47, Section 312(a)(1)), AND/OR FORFEITURE (U.S. Code, Title 47, Section 503).

FCC NOTICE REQUIRED BY THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

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THE FOREGOING NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995, PUBLIC LAW 104-13, OCTOBER 1, 1995, 44 U.S.C. SECTION 3507.

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

| | | |
|--|---|------------------------|
| In the Matter of |) | |
| |) | |
| SES AMERICOM, INC. |) | File No. SAT-STA-_____ |
| |) | Call Sign S2135 |
| Request for Special Temporary Authority to |) | |
| Drift AMC-4 Fixed-Satellite Space Station to |) | |
| 134.85° W.L. |) | |

REQUEST OF SES AMERICOM, INC.

SES Americom, Inc. (“SES”) hereby respectfully requests special temporary authority (“STA”) for a period of 60 days¹ beginning on or before June 14, 2017, to permit relocation of the AMC-4 C/Ku-band fixed-satellite space station. Specifically, SES seeks authority to drift AMC-4 from its current position at 67.0° W.L. to 134.85° W.L. and maintain it at that location using certain C-band and conventional Ku-band frequencies for Telemetry, Tracking and Command (“TT&C”).² SES will shortly file a modification application requesting reassignment of AMC-4 to 134.85° W.L. and seeks STA pending submission of and action on this modification application. Grant of the requested authority will serve the public interest by allowing SES to begin the drift of AMC-4 to an orbital location where it will meet customer requirements for additional Ku-band capacity to facilitate the delivery of in-flight broadband service to passengers and crew members traveling on U.S. airlines.

¹ SES is requesting STA for a period of 60 days; however, if the Commission determines it is not able to grant STA for that period, SES will accept an authorization for 30 days.

² The AMC-4 TT&C frequencies and nominal polarizations are as follows:
Command: 6423.5 MHz (vertical polarization; uplink)
Telemetry: 3700.5 MHz (vertical polarization; downlink),
4199.5 MHz (horizontal polarization; downlink), and
11702.0 MHz (horizontal polarization; downlink)
12198.0 MHz (vertical polarization; downlink).

AMC-4 is a hybrid C/Ku-band satellite that is licensed to operate pursuant to Commission authority at 67° W.L.³ On March 30, 2017, SES's affiliate, New Skies Satellites B.V., successfully launched its SES-10 satellite, which will ultimately operate at 66.9° W.L.⁴ The satellite is expected to arrive at its operational orbital location following in-orbit testing by the middle of May. Once it has arrived and customer traffic is successfully transferred from AMC-4 to SES-10, AMC-4 will become available for relocation. SES has a customer requirement to provide aeronautical service over the Pacific Ocean. Relocating AMC-4 to the nominal 135° W.L. orbital location will support this requirement by adding Ku-band capacity at an orbital location where such capacity is not available today.

The Commission has generally permitted satellite operators the flexibility to design and modify their networks in response to customer requirements, absent compelling countervailing public interest considerations.⁵ Here, grant of the requested STA will permit SES to begin drifting the satellite to accommodate the customer's time frame and facilitate efficient use of AMC-4 to provide service to customers.

Authorizing the drift will not adversely affect other operators. The proposed station keeping volume for AMC-4 will not overlap with that of any other spacecraft. The closest satellites to AMC-4 will be other SES satellites, AMC-7 and AMC-10, both of which operate at 135.0° W.L. with an east-west station keeping tolerance of +/-0.05 degrees. SES will

³ See SES Americom, Inc., Call Sign S2135, File No. SAT-MOD-20140606-00059, granted Sept. 23, 2014.

⁴ See New Skies Satellites B.V., Call Sign S2950, File No. SAT-MPL-20170108-00002, granted Mar. 22, 2017.

⁵ See, e.g. *AMSC Subsidiary Corporation*, 13 FCC Rcd 12316 at ¶ 8 (IB 1998) (the Commission generally leaves space station design decisions to the licensee "because the licensee is in a better position to determine how to tailor its system to meet the particular needs of its customers") (footnote omitted).

use only the TT&C frequencies of AMC-4 during the drift and will follow standard industry practices for coordination of TT&C transmissions during the relocation process.

For the foregoing reasons, SES respectfully requests grant of STA to permit relocation of AMC-4 pending submission of and action on the forthcoming AMC-4 modification application.

Respectfully submitted,

SES AMERICOM, INC.

By: /s/ Petra A. Vorwig

Of Counsel

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Dated: May 3, 2017