

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

In the Matter of)	
)	
SES AMERICOM, INC.)	File No. SAT-STA-_____
)	Call Sign S2434
Request for Special Temporary Authority for)	
the AMC-9 Fixed-Satellite Space Station)	

EXPEDITED ACTION REQUESTED

REQUEST OF SES AMERICOM, INC.

SES Americom, Inc. (“SES”), pursuant to Section 25.120 of the Commission’s rules, 47 C.F.R. § 25.120, hereby respectfully requests immediate special temporary authority (“STA”) for a period of 30 days and a waiver of the stationkeeping tolerance requirements of Section 25.210(j), 47 C.F.R. § 25.210(j), to permit continued operations of the AMC-9 satellite outside of its assigned stationkeeping volume at 83° W.L. +/- 0.05 degrees.

AMC-9 is a hybrid C/Ku-band satellite that is licensed to operate pursuant to Commission authority at 83° W.L.¹ As SES previously informed personnel in the Commission’s Satellite Division, on June 17, 2017, AMC-9 experienced an anomaly of unknown origin. Due to this anomaly, the satellite is not responding to commands, and SES is unable to maintain the satellite in its assigned stationkeeping volume. SES seeks STA to continue communications with the satellite for Telemetry, Tracking and Command (“TT&C”) purposes only.² Based on the

¹ See *SES Americom, Inc.*, Call Sign S2434, File No. SAT-MOD-20110621-00115, granted Aug. 25, 2011.

² The AMC-9 TT&C frequencies are as follows.

<u>Command:</u>	6423.5 MHz
<u>Telemetry:</u>	3700.5 MHz
	4199.5 MHz
	11702.0 MHz
	12198.0 MHz

available evidence, SES has a very high level of confidence that the satellite's communications payloads are off, and SES is not seeking authority to operate the communications payloads.

Granting the STA and the associated waiver will serve the public interest and is consistent with Commission policy:

The Commission may waive a rule for good cause shown. Waiver is appropriate if special circumstances warrant a deviation from the general rule and such deviation would better serve the public interest than would strict adherence to the general rule. Generally, the Commission may grant a waiver of its rules in a particular case if the relief requested would not undermine the policy objective of the rule in question and would otherwise serve the public interest.³

The Commission may also take into account considerations of hardship and equity when evaluating a waiver request.⁴

These considerations justify a waiver of the Commission's stationkeeping tolerance requirements in this instance. Because of the technical anomaly affecting the AMC-9 satellite, the spacecraft is not responding to the commands necessary to maintain it within its assigned stationkeeping volume. As a result, SES is unable to conform to the requirements of Section 25.210(j). Waiving the rule will allow SES to continue its efforts to regain control of the spacecraft. SES is taking all practical steps to coordinate the safe operation of AMC-9, including contacting the operators of neighboring satellites.

As discussed above, SES asks that the requested STA take effect immediately.

The anomaly affecting AMC-9 occurred suddenly and without warning, and is the type of

³ *PanAmSat Licensee Corp.*, 17 FCC Rcd 10483, 10492 (Sat. Div. 2002) (footnotes omitted).

⁴ *Wait Radio v. FCC*, 418 F.2d 1153, 1159 (D.C. Cir. 1969), *cert. denied*, 409 U.S. 1027 (1972).

extraordinary circumstance that warrants grant of authority on less than three business days' notice under Section 25.120(a).

For the foregoing reasons, SES respectfully requests expedited grant of this STA to permit operation of the TT&C payload of AMC-9 outside the satellite's assigned stationkeeping volume.

Respectfully submitted,

SES AMERICOM, INC.

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Dated: June 19, 2017