

## **REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY**

The Commission has granted Space Exploration Holdings, LLC (“SpaceX”) Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) to use E-band spectrum to send and receive signals between gateway earth stations and SpaceX’s recently licensed second generation (“Gen2”) satellites.<sup>1</sup> The Commission deferred licensing this gateway spectrum in the *Gen2 Authorization* pending further consideration.<sup>2</sup> SpaceX has been operating pursuant to STA in the interim, but that authorization will expire on April 18. Accordingly, SpaceX respectfully requests that the Commission extend this STA for an additional 60 days for operations while the Commission continues to process its underlying space station application.

SpaceX has operated these gateway links pursuant to STA and has received no complaints from any authorized spectrum user. The operation of these links has enabled Gen2 satellites to communicate with gateway earth stations to confirm their operational status; to evaluate the overall performance of the Gen2 network of space stations and earth stations; and to prepare to meet rapidly growing demand from consumers for high-speed, low-latency broadband service that can exceed existing Ka-band gateway capacity. It has also enabled SpaceX to ensure that the E-band component of SpaceX’s Gen2 satellites have been fully tested and prepared to support the growing Gen2 system, while bringing benefits to consumers, businesses, and community anchor institutions. Extending the STA will enable SpaceX to continue providing such augmented capabilities.

SpaceX will operate the E-band gateway links with the technical parameters provided in the application as modified by the conditions in the current STA. SpaceX will continue to operate these links under the STA on a non-interference basis. In the extremely unlikely event that harmful interference should occur due to transmissions to or from its spacecraft, SpaceX will take all reasonable steps to eliminate the interference. Should an issue arise, SpaceX can be reached at [satellite-operators-pager@spacex.com](mailto:satellite-operators-pager@spacex.com), which links to the pagers of appropriate technical personnel 24/7/365.

Accordingly, SpaceX requests that the Commission extend the STA for E-band gateway links for an additional 60 days.

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<sup>1</sup> See Stamp Grant, IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20221228-00180 (IB, Feb. 17, 2023).

<sup>2</sup> See *Space Exploration Holdings, LLC*, FCC 22-91, ¶¶ 67-69 (rel. Dec. 1, 2022) (“*Gen2 Authorization*”).