

REQUEST FOR SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

Pursuant to Section 25.120 of the Commission's rules,¹ DIRECTV Enterprises, LLC ("DIRECTV") herein requests Special Temporary Authority ("STA"), beginning on or about September 1, 2026 and lasting for a period of 30 days, to de-orbit the DIRECTV D9S satellite (Call Sign S2669) from its current location at the nominal 101° W.L. orbital location and to perform telemetry, tracking, and command ("TT&C") functions with DIRECTV D9S during this maneuver.

DIRECTV has identified three of its earth stations that will be available to maintain dedicated TT&C primary and backup coverage of de-orbit maneuvers from the satellite's current location.² DIRECTV will continue to use its current telemetry and command frequencies for this satellite (12.6955 GHz and 12.6965 GHz (space-to-Earth) and 17.795 GHz (Earth-to-space)). As a contingency for continued operations in the unlikely scenario that de-orbit operations do not complete before the spacecraft has drifted past its earth stations' operational arc at 162° W longitude, DIRECTV requests authority to use the 14.003 GHz and 14.497 GHz (Earth-to-space) command frequencies onboard D9S with two earth stations operated by SES.³

The deorbit sequence should take approximately 20 days. Once the satellite has reached its disposal altitude, DIRECTV will execute its standard shut-down procedures by, for example, discharging stored energy sources on board the satellite, discharging batteries, relieving pressure vessels, or other appropriate measures.

Grant of this STA request is in the public interest. DIRECTV's D9S satellite has reached

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 25.120.

² DIRECTV is filing STA requests for each of these antennas (call signs E930229, E060236, and E980285) concurrently with this STA request.

³ SES is filing STA requests for these two antennas (call signs E060384 and E120008) concurrently with this STA request.

the end of its useful life and its role as a back-up to DIRECTV's D16 satellite operating at the same nominal 101° W.L. orbital location has completed.⁴ Removing the satellite from geostationary orbit will eliminate risk to other geostationary satellite operators' missions. Authorizing DIRECTV's request will facilitate disposal of DIRECTV D9S as safely as possible.

For the reasons set forth herein, DIRECTV respectfully requests that the Commission expeditiously grant this request for special temporary authority to de-orbit the DIRECTV D9S satellite.

⁴ DIRECTV D9S commenced inclined orbit operations in June 2023, and currently has an inclination of 2.6°.