



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

International Bureau

December 8, 2011

Tony Azzarelli
Head of Space Services
Office of Communications
Riverside House
2A Southwark Bridge Rd
London SE1 9HA

S2399 SAT-T/C-20100112-00008 IB2010000207
Intelsat North America LLC
INTELSAT 603

Richard Blayber
Head of Regulation
UK Space Agency
SFS Polaris House
North Star Avenue
Swindon
Wiltshire SN2 1SZ

Dear Messrs. Azzarelli and Blayber:

This letter is to confirm the informal understandings of the Office of Communications of the United Kingdom (Ofcom), the UK Space Agency and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) concerning certain issues involved in the operation by Intelsat Global Sales & Marketing Ltd. (Intelsat Global Sales) of the satellite known as Intelsat 603.

Background

Intelsat North America is authorized by the FCC to operate the Intelsat 603 space station in the C-band (3625-4200 MHz downlink and 5850-6425 MHz uplink, and Ku-band (10.95-11.20, 11.45-11.70 GHz downlink and 14-14.5 GHz uplink) at the 19.95° W.L. orbital location. Intelsat North America LLC (Intelsat North America) and Intelsat Global Sales wish to operate the Intelsat 603 space station at the 11.5° E.L. orbital location, under authorizations issued by Ofcom and the UK Space Agency to Intelsat Global Sales.

On March 4, 2010, the FCC granted Intelsat North America special temporary authority to conduct TT&C operations of the Intelsat 603 space station during drift from the 19.95° W.L. orbital location to the 11.5° E.L. orbital location. Intelsat North America and Intelsat Global Sales contemplate that upon approval by the FCC, licensing authority over the spacecraft will transfer from the FCC to Ofcom and the UK Space Agency, and that the satellite will complete its remaining mission life at the 11.5° E.L. orbital location. The FCC granted Intelsat North America further temporary authority to conduct TT&C operations with the Intelsat 603 space station and to provide Fixed-Satellite Services in certain C-band frequencies from the 11.5° E.L. orbital location on May 20, 2010; and has renewed that authority periodically. On November 17, 2010, Intelsat received Space Act Authorization from the UK Space Agency. The authorization

includes customary provisions requiring indemnification of the crown and the purchase of an appropriate insurance policy.¹

Informal Understandings between Ofcom and the UK Space Agency and the FCC on certain technical issues concerning the operation of Intelsat 603

It is my understanding that our agencies have concurred on the following technical issues concerning the operation of Intelsat 603:

1. Until approval by the FCC to the change in the licensing Administration associated with the Intelsat 603 space station, it will operate subject to FCC authority.
2. Upon the effective date of approval by the FCC of the change in the licensing Administration associated with the space station, the Intelsat 603 satellite will operate subject to Ofcom's and the UK Space Agency's authority. Ofcom will thereafter have responsibility for compliance with the ITU Radio Regulations (including the requirement for licensing in an appropriate form as specified in Article 18.1 of the Radio Regulations, and any applicable agreement-seeking procedures) in connection with operation of the Intelsat 603 satellite.
3. The FCC will provide prior notice to Ofcom and the UK Space Agency of the effective date of any action approving the proposed change in licensing Administration.
4. The UK Space Agency shall consult with the FCC at the earliest possible date upon receipt of any request for termination of the UK Space Agency authorization for operations at the 11.5° E.L. orbital location, including any such request that may involve transfer of the Intelsat 603 satellite operations to a third Administration.
5. The UK Space Agency will require, barring catastrophic failure of satellite components, that Intelsat Global Sales reorbit the Intelsat 603 spacecraft at the end of its mission life to an altitude at least 150 kilometers above its operational orbit, and if possible in compliance with ITU Recommendation S.1003-1, Environmental Protection of the Geostationary-Satellite Orbit.


The informal understandings set forth in this letter concerning operation of the Intelsat 603 satellite do not constitute a frequency coordination agreement under Article 9 of the Radio Regulations on the part of the United States Administration with any filings made to the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau. It is my understanding that the FCC and Ofcom will, separately, and as a part of the process applicable under the ITU Radio Regulations, work in good faith to complete that process, insofar as it may be necessary.

¹ UK Space Agency, Outer Space Act, Example of a Typical Licence, <http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/bispartners/ukspaceagency/docs/osa/osa2008example.pdf> (last visited May 16, 2011).

Finally, all notices, inquiries, and correspondence from Ofcom and the UK Space Agency concerning these matters should be directed to the Chief, Satellite Division, International Bureau (phone number 202.418-0719, e-mail: Robert.Nelson@fcc.gov, with a copy to Karl.Kensinger@fcc.gov and Stephen.Duall@fcc.gov), on the part of the FCC. The FCC will forward all notices, inquiries, and correspondence concerning these matters to Ofcom and UK Space Agency, respectively the Head of Space & Science Services, Ofcom (phone number +44 20 7981 3132, e-mail: Tony.Azzarelli@ofcom.org.uk, with a copy to Stephen.Limb@ofcom.org.uk, phone number: +44 20 7981 3091) and Richard Blayber, Head of Regulation, UK Space Agency (e-mail: richard.blayber@ukspaceagency.bis.gsi.gov.uk).

If the foregoing corresponds to the understanding of the informal arrangements concerning the various technical issues involved in the operation of the Intelsat 603 space station, please confirm by return letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Nelson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert G. Nelson
Chief
Satellite Division