<u>DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF THE ECHOSTAR 6 SATELLITE</u> FROM FCC LICENSING AUTHORITY TO MEXICAN LICENSING AUTHORITY

EchoStar Corporation ("EchoStar")¹ hereby requests authority to transfer the EchoStar 6 Direct Broadcast Satellite ("DBS") service satellite to QuetzSat, S. de R.L. de C.V. ("QuetzSat"), which will operate the satellite under Mexican authority from the 76.95° W.L. orbital location. By this application, EchoStar is not requesting authority to assign or transfer control over any authorization granted by the Commission. QuetzSat does not plan to become a Commission licensee and will not become one by virtue of this application. Furthermore, EchoStar is not transferring ownership of the satellite, as it will continue to own EchoStar 6 while the satellite is located at 76.95° W.L.

The purpose of the proposed transfer is to facilitate the re-licensing of EchoStar 6 as a Mexican-licensed satellite while it is located at 76.95° W.L.² The Commission granted EchoStar authority to relocate the EchoStar 6 satellite to 76.95° W.L. and operate it there as a U.S.-licensed satellite pursuant to special temporary authority.³ The long-term objective is for

¹ On February 24, 2011, EchoStar Corporation filed an application requesting consent to the *pro forma* assignment of its EchoStar 6 satellite to EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation. File No. SAT-ASG-20110224-00033 (filed Feb. 24, 2011). EchoStar requests that, in the event the *pro forma* application is granted prior to Commission action on this request, EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation be substituted as the transferor on this application.

² *Cf.* Stamp Grant, File No. SAT-T/C-20090217-00026 (granted Sept. 17, 2010) (consenting to the transfer of EchoStar 8 to QuetzSat to facilitate the satellite's re-flagging under Mexican authority); Stamp Grant, File No. SAT-T/C-20090217-00027 (granted Sept. 17, 2010) (consenting to the transfer of EchoStar 1 to QuetzSat to facilitate the satellite's re-flagging under Mexican authority); Stamp Grant, File No. SAT-ASG-20080609-00120 (granted Aug. 6, 2008) (consenting to *pro forma* assignment to facilitate re-licensing of SES's AMC-21 satellite as a United Kingdom/Gibraltar-licensed satellite).

³ Stamp Grant, File No. SAT-STA-20110204-00025 (granted Feb. 4, 2011); Stamp Grant, File No. SAT-STA-20110207-00026 (granted Feb. 11, 2011); Stamp Grant, File No. SAT-STA-20110225-00036 (granted Mar. 1, 2011).

EchoStar 6 to be operated at the nominal 77° W.L. orbital location by QuetzSat, the holder of the Mexican concession for the DBS frequencies at that location. As explained in more detail in EchoStar's blanket earth station application, EchoStar has contractual rights to the nominal 77° W.L. orbital location for the purpose of providing DBS service to the United States and Mexico.⁴ As further explained in that application, the redeployment of EchoStar 6 to 76.95° W.L. serves the public interest by ensuring the provision of DBS service, through EchoStar's customer DISH Operating L.L.C., to the United States, including the provision of local-into-local service in the southern United States. By the same token, consenting to the requested transfer of the EchoStar 6 satellite to QuetzSat to facilitate the redeployment of the satellite under Mexican authority will also be in the public interest.

Although this application does not constitute an assignment of, or transfer of control over, any Commission authorization, EchoStar provides below a summary of QuetzSat's ownership. QuetzSat is a Mexican limited liability company that was established to provide competitive satellite services. In 2005, the Mexican government awarded QuetzSat a concession for the Ku-band Broadcast Satellite Services ("BSS") frequencies at 77° W.L. QuetzSat has offices at Av. Insurgentes Sur 1605 Piso 12, Col. San José Insurgentes, México, D.F. 03900.

Two entities hold direct interests in QuetzSat: Satélites Globales, S. de R.L. de C.V. ("Satélites Globales"), with a 51% interest, and SES Global South America Holdings, S.L. ("SES GSA Holdings"), with a 49% interest. Satélites Globales is a Mexican limited liability company that was formed to pursue opportunities in the satellite business. Its interest holders include Clemente Serna Alvear, Clemente Serna Barrera, Luis Martínez Arguello and Ricardo Rios Ferrer, all of whom are Mexican citizens. Clemente Serna Alvear is the Chairman of QuetzSat,

⁴ See File No. SES-MFS-2011____-_ (filed March 14, 2011).

and he and Clemente Serna Barrera are also principals in Grupo Medcom, S.A. de C.V., a leading Mexican media organization. Satélites Globales has its offices c/o Ricardo Rios Ferrer at Ríos Ferrer, Guillén-Llarena, Treviño y Rivera, S.C., Av. Insurgentes Sur 1605 Piso 12, Col. San José Insurgentes, México, D.F. 03900.

SES GSA Holdings is a Spanish limited liability company with offices at P° Castellana, 91,4a, 28046-Madrid, Spain. SES GSA Holdings is a holding company that is wholly owned by SES Latin America S.A., which in turn is wholly owned by SES S.A. Both SES Latin America S.A. and SES S.A. are Luxembourg companies with offices at L-6815 Château de Betzdorf, Luxembourg. SES S.A. is also the parent company of SES World Skies, a Commission licensee, and additional information regarding SES S.A. is on file with the Commission as part of SES World Skies's space station license applications.