

Exhibit A
HNS License Sub, LLC
Amendment to
Modification of License Application
April 2012

Description of Amendment

HNS License Sub, LLC (“Hughes”) amends its pending modification of license application for Call Sign E060445 (File No. SES-MFS-20120322-00290) in two respects: First, Hughes seeks to substitute EchoStar XVII, as proposed for operation under a Commission license in File No. SAT-LOA-20120424-00075 (“EchoStar XVII Application”), for EchoStar XVII as a United Kingdom space object, as a point of communication for all antennas. Second, Hughes calls upon the Commission not to impose Condition No. 90024 on this authorization. Condition No. 90024, which has been applied to several other Hughes earth station licenses for ground facilities that will operate with EchoStar XVII (f/k/a Jupiter 1 and Spaceway 4), specifies that the authority will become effective “upon grant of authorization for launch and space operations under the UK Outer Space Act (1986)[.]” and that such authority “shall immediately cease in the event of denial of any request for such authorization.” *See, e.g.*, License of HNS License Sub, LLC for Call Sign E110149, at 3, Section H, Condition No. 90024.

There are no other changes to the facilities proposed for Call Sign E060445 from the pending March 22, 2012 modification of license application in File No. SES-MFS-20120322-00290 (“Modification Application”). Hughes hereby confirms that all proposals in the Modification Application are still valid, as are the exhibits and other materials provided in the Modification Application (including materials provided in response to the affirmative answers to Questions 36 and 42b on FCC Form 312, but not reproduced with this Amendment). Because EchoStar XVII is due to be launched on June 19, 2012, and authority to communicate with the

satellite via the U.S. earth station facilities licensed to Hughes will be required shortly thereafter, Hughes respectfully requests expedited processing of this Application, as now amended.

Hughes holds authority to access the U.S. market via a U.K.-authorized EchoStar XVII satellite under a letter of intent issued by the Commission in May 2010 in File No. SAT-LOI-20091110-00119 (“EchoStar XVII LOI”). On April 24, 2012, Hughes filed the EchoStar XVII Application to launch and operate EchoStar XVII under a Commission license. This Amendment seeks to have the U.S.-licensed EchoStar XVII replace the U.K.-licensed EchoStar XVII satellite as a point of communication for all antennas for which the U.K.-licensed EchoStar XVII satellite is currently listed as a point of communication. There is only one EchoStar XVII satellite, and there are no technical changes at all between the U.K.-licensed and U.S.-licensed version of the EchoStar XVII satellite.

Condition No. 90024, as imposed on several Hughes earth station licenses, conditions effectiveness of the authority to operate the earth station’s antennas with EchoStar XVII on the grant of launch and operational authority for the satellite under the United Kingdom’s Outer Space Act of 1986. As it appears unlikely that the United Kingdom’s Space Agency will be the government that issues launch authority for the EchoStar XVII spacecraft, Hughes anticipates that it would be unable to satisfy Condition No. 90024 in its current form. Hughes Network Systems, LLC (“HNS”), which is a parent company of Hughes, has proposed in the EchoStar XVII Application to have launch and operational authority for the satellite assumed by the Commission. For this reason, and to enable Hughes to use its earth station facilities to control and communicate with EchoStar XVII upon completion of in-orbit testing following the June 19, 2012 launch, Hughes urges the Commission not to impose Condition No. 90024 on the modified license for Call Sign E060445. As an alternative, Hughes urges the Commission to impose a

modified version of the condition that specifies only that HNS must possess governmental authority to launch and operate EchoStar XVII.