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FILED/ACCEPTED

MAY - 2 2007

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

May 2, 2007

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: **Release from Performance Bond for Satisfaction of Launch-and-Operate Milestone
EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation
Authorization to Operate Earth Stations with Telesat Canada's Anik F3 Satellite
File Nos. SES-LFS-20040831-01253 and SES-LIC-20050621-00799; DA 05-3227**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation ("EchoStar") hereby requests that it be released immediately and completely from its performance bond submitted on January 19, 2006, in connection with the above-captioned authorization to communicate with the Anik F3 satellite. That satellite was successfully launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on April 10, 2007, and commenced regular operations from its authorized orbital location at 118.7° W.L. on April 30, 2007. EchoStar has therefore satisfied handily the December 20, 2010 milestone in its authorization for the launch and operation of the satellite,¹ and is entitled to be released completely from the \$3 million performance bond that it has duly posted.

¹ See Order DA 05-3227, at ¶ 35 (rel. Dec. 20, 2005). EchoStar has previously requested a partial reduction of its performance bond for meeting the first three milestones on its authorization. See Letter from Pantelis Michalopoulos, Counsel for EchoStar Satellite L.L.C. to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC (Aug. 18, 2006).

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Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Pantelis Michalopoulos in cursive script, followed by the initials "/DCM".

Pantelis Michalopoulos
Counsel for EchoStar Satellite L.L.C.

cc:

Robert Nelson, International Bureau
Andrea Kelly, International Bureau
Jay Whaley, International Bureau