

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of

Application of Shell Communications, Inc.
for Modification of Fixed Earth Station
License to Add Permitted List Authority

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File No:

Call Sign: E060232

Earth Station License Modification Application

By this application, Shell Communications, Inc. (“Shell Communications”) seeks to modify its existing C-band fixed earth station license (Call Sign E060232) by adding “Permitted List” as an authorized point of communication for the earth station terminal. The subject terminal – an Sea Tel 9797 – is located on the VK 956 Ram-Powell, an offshore oil platform located in the Gulf of Mexico (29° 4' 12.0" N, 88° 6' 12.0" W). Presently under the license, the terminal is authorized to communicate with certain satellite points of communication and this modification seeks to expand communications to include satellites on the Commission’s Permitted Space Station List. The requested modification will afford Shell Communications additional operational flexibility and allow it to obtain more reliable and cost-effective satellite services on the offshore platform, where reliable broadband connectivity is critical for operational, safety and other reasons.

In seeking Permitted List authority, Shell Communications requests authority to operate the earth station terminal with any U.S. licensed satellite and non-U.S. licensed satellite on the Commission’s Permitted Space Station List. Accordingly, Shell Communications also seeks to widen the range of satellite arc currently in the license to 60° W.L. to 143° W.L., which will slightly modify the maximum EIRP spectral density towards the horizon value, as well as the azimuth and elevation angles, as indicated in the Schedule B. Shell Communications certifies that the remaining technical information in

its earth station license and associated application¹ remains unchanged.

A frequency coordination analysis was conducted by Comsearch and demonstrates that Shell Communications may operate the Sea Tel 9797 earth station terminal over the proposed satellite arc range and will not cause harmful interference. Comsearch sent a coordination notice to existing licensees in the band within relevant coordination distances and no objections have been received from incumbent licensees. Accordingly, Shell Communications' proposed operations are fully compatible with other FCC-licensed operations.² The requested modification will serve the public interest by enhancing Shell Communications' satellite communication capabilities on the VK 956 Ram-Powell, thereby improving the critical services its provide to crew members for business and emergency operations.

Shell Communications respectfully requests that the Commission grant its application to modify its existing C-band earth station license, Call Sign E060232, by adding Permitted List authority to allow the terminal to communicate with satellites on the Commission's Permitted Space Station List.

¹ See File No. SES-MFS-20081210-01584 (Call Sign E060232).

² Please note that potentially affected licenses may respond to Comsearch by January 19, 2016, but Comsearch's analysis suggests that there will be no impact to such licensees by the operations proposed herein. To the extent that a potentially affected licensee contacts Comsearch regarding the proposed operations, Shell will inform the Commission and amend its application to the extent necessary to address the concerns of the affected licensees.