

Annex 4

FAA Notification Not Required

47 C.F.R. 25.115¹ requires applicants for a modification of an earth station license that involves an earth station structure over 6.1 meters above ground level to explain why FAA notification is not required.

The Randolph Ridge 1.2m Earth Station will be over 6.1 meters off the ground. However, 47 C.F.R. 17.7 provides an exception to the FAA notification requirement if the earth station is shielded by “natural terrain or topographic features of equal or greater height... where the shielded structure will not adversely affect safety in air navigation.”²

The Randolph Ridge 1.2m Earth Station qualifies for this exception. It is being sited on a raised platform because the site is close to a wooded area. The tree line is sufficiently high that the Randolph Ridge 1.2m Earth Station could not maintain its connection with the O3b satellite system if it were sited on the ground. The Randolph Ridge 1.2m Earth Station is being sited high enough so that it can communicate with the O3b satellite system uninterrupted, but the height of the Earth Station will not exceed the height of the nearby trees. The new site, therefore, is shielded by natural terrain of equal or greater height and will not adversely affect safety in air navigation. In accordance with 47 C.F.R. 17.7, O3b does not need to submit a FAA notification.

¹ 47 C.F.R. 25.115(j).

² 47 C.F.R. 17.7(e)(1).