

EXHIBIT 1

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS (Response to Question 43, Form 312)

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 25.117, HNS License Sub, LLC (together with its affiliates, “Hughes”) seeks authorization to modify a gateway earth station licensed to operate in Driggs, ID (Call Sign E170161) for communications with EchoStar XXIV (also known as “Jupiter 3”), a Ka- and Q/V-band geostationary orbit satellite authorized to provide fixed satellite services. Specifically, Hughes requests the following minor technical modifications: (i) an antenna size increase from 9.2 to 10 m. (in diameter); and (ii) an antenna height increase of approximately 2.2 m. The proposed modified parameters are further specified in the accompanying Schedule B, with all other authorized parameters remaining the same.

Commission Policy and Public Interest Benefits. Commission grant of the requested minor technical modifications will permit deployment of key components of the overall EchoStar XXIV satellite network, thus enabling Hughes to offer unique and compelling public interest benefits, including additional and advanced broadband services to more than 1.5 million customers across the Americas. EchoStar XXIV, along with its capacity and speed capabilities, will join other satellites in the Hughes fleet to offer a true competitive broadband alternative across the country. The satellite will provide additional capacity and help solve the digital divide by offering advanced broadband services with download speeds of 100 Mbps or higher to enterprises, the government, small businesses, and residential customers across the United States and the Americas. EchoStar XXIV also will support a variety of applications, including broadband access, aeronautical services for in-flight connectivity, residential and business VOIP, and next generation communications services, including 5G.

Additionally, ensuring successful launch and operations of the EchoStar XXIV satellite network will bolster Hughes' disaster relief efforts and capabilities. In many cases, satellite is the only reliable communications system following a natural disaster.¹ Indeed, Hughes has provided crucial broadband services in the wake of numerous disasters, including Hurricane Michael in 2018 and Hurricane Dorian in 2019.² Moreover, Hughes's ubiquitous service coverage and capacity remain key to meeting unprecedented consumer broadband demand resulting from the coronavirus pandemic.

Grant of the proposed technical modifications is also consistent with the Commission's established policy of leaving satellite design decisions to system operators in order to promote competition, flexibility, and technical innovation.³ Accordingly, the Commission consistently has approved satellite system modifications "when a proposed modification presents no significant interference problem and conforms to the Commission's rules and policies."⁴

Coordination with Terrestrial Operations. The proposed technical modifications are limited to minor antenna size and height increases, with no increase in authorized power limits and thus no significant increase in interference risk. Hughes has initiated frequency coordination for the proposed modifications with respect to the 27.5-28.35 GHz and 47.2-48.2 GHz bands, and will shortly submit a report upon completion of coordination.

¹ See Comments of Liga de Cooperativas de Puerto Rico, WC Dkt. No. 18-143 et al., at 1-2 (Jul. 2, 2018); see also *The Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and the Connect USVI Fund*, Report and Order and Order on Reconsideration, 34 FCC Rcd 9109, ¶ 46 (2019) ("We agree with numerous commenters that allowing inclusion of satellite providers is particularly valuable in the context of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands due to satellite's resilience and availability post-hurricanes.").

² See, e.g., EchoStar Satellite Services, LLC, Special Temporary Authorizations to Extend Service to the Bahamas for Emergency Operations, File Nos. SAT-STA-20190925-00101 & SAT-STA-20190906-00088 (Sept. 13 & Nov. 14, 2019).

³ See *New ICO Services G.P.*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 21 FCC Rcd 14603, ¶ 5 (IB 2006).

⁴ *Id.*

Conclusion. Based on the foregoing, Commission grant of the proposed minor technical modifications will serve the public interest without creating any significant increase in interference risk.