

March 3, 2011

System Analysis Branch  
Satellite Division  
International Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority – CapRock Communicaitons, Inc.

Pursuant to Section 25.120(b) of the Rules and Regulations (“Regulations”) of the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission”), CapRock Communications Inc. (“CAPROCK”) seeks Commission consideration for a Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) to operate Earth Stations on Vessels (ESVs) while an application for permanent authority is being reviewed.

On March 2, 2011, CAPROCK filed an application to modify its existing ESV license to include the Seatel 75cm Ku antenna model (USAT30) (File No. SES-MOD-20110302-00232, callsign E060157). The proposed application would authorize CAPROCK to operate ESVs on cargo ships, fishing vessels, and various marine craft with specific applications to the offshore oil & gas industry.

Crew members on these vessels are often at sea for prolonged periods and have limited communications with the outside world. The proposed authorization would permit crew personnel to access the internet, telephone, and email while at sea thus providing a much needed lifeline that would contribute to the crew member’s health, well-being, and safety. In addition, smaller stabilized antennas, like the one proposed in the underlying application, are better suited for smaller vessels with higher maneuverability like the ones needed in search and rescue operations.

Finally, the proposed authorization would allow CAPROCK to provide satellite services to vessels in the Gulf of Mexico as they participate in efforts to continue Gulf of Mexico oil spill recovery.

According to Section 25.120(b)(1) of the Regulations, “*the Commission may grant a temporary authorization only upon a finding that there are extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary operations in the public interest and that delay in the institution of these temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest.*” In this case, among other things, providing satellite communications to vessels engaged in the continuing effort to recover spilled oil from the surface and below the surface of the Gulf of Mexico is an extraordinary circumstance requiring temporary operations in the public interest. Furthermore, delaying this operation would seriously injure the public interest.

Pursuant to Section 25.120(b)(2) of the Regulations, the Commission may grant temporary authorization for a period not to exceed 180 days, if the Commission has placed the STA on public notice. In the instance case, CAPROCK is requesting the Commission to place this application on public notice and subsequently grant this application for 180 days beginning April 15, 2011. The planned satellites are G25 (93W) and Telstar 14 (63W).

Sincerely,

*/s/ Raul Magallanes*

Raul Magallanes