

Description of Request for Special Temporary Authority

ViaSat, Inc. (“ViaSat”) hereby requests special temporary authority (“STA”) to operate 50 temporary-fixed earth stations to communicate with the ViaSat-1, WildBlue-1 and Anik-F2 satellites, each of which has been authorized by the Commission to serve the United States in the proposed frequency ranges. The terminals will utilize the 28.35-29.1 GHz and 29.5-30.0 GHz (uplink) bands and the 18.3-19.3 GHz and 19.7-20.2 GHz (downlink) bands on ViaSat-1 at the nominal 115° W.L. location, and the 29.5-30.0 GHz (uplink) band and the 19.7-20.2 GHz (downlink) band on WildBlue-1 and Anik-F2 at the nominal 111° W.L. location.¹ ViaSat has a pending request for full licensing authority to operate these temporary-fixed terminals. *See* File No. SES-LIC-INTR2012-01313; IB2012001313. That application contains all of the relevant technical parameters for the STA operations. ViaSat requests authority commencing on June 8, 2012 for a period of 60 days.

The requested STA is necessary in order to meet important public safety and government agency needs. ViaSat has been requested by federal law enforcement agencies, military agencies and the American Red Cross to deploy these antennas for emergency response applications and for remote tactical operations. These customers have a critical need for a reliable, high-speed broadband connection that can be deployed remotely. The transportable nature of these terminals allows them to be deployed in locations and in scenarios where other communications equipment is unsuitable. These transportable terminals, operating with ViaSat’s satellite broadband network, would provide these agencies with unparalleled data rates.

Critically, with the commencement of the 2012 hurricane season on June 1, 2012 in the Atlantic coast region, grant of this STA will facilitate the ability of aid and security agencies to obtain these terminals with enough time to train employees on the equipment and to gain experience in operations, thereby allowing these temporary-fixed services to be deployed at the earliest possible time during weather-related emergencies.

The unavailability of these antennas while the full license application leaves these government users and emergency responders with limited and insufficient alternatives in the event of a natural disaster or during law enforcement or military operations. Therefore, an STA is warranted and in the public interest in this case.

ViaSat will make available a 24/7 point of contact in the event that any issues arise in connection with the operations under the requested STA. Personnel will be on duty at all times during the STA period and can be contacted at (720) 493-7300.

¹ ViaSat’s affiliate, WB Holdings 1 LLC, is blanket licensed under call sign E050033 to operate a large number of user terminals in the 19.7-20.2 GHz and 29.5-30.0 GHz bands on WildBlue-1 and Anik-F2.