

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

In the Matter of Application by)
)
SES AMERICOM, INC.) Call Sign E970336
)
For Special Temporary Authority to) Expedited Action Requested
Communicate with QuetzSat-1 to Perform) by December 11, 2012
TT&C at 61.5° W.L. and During and)
After a Move to the 77° W.L. DBS Cluster)

REQUEST FOR SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

By this application, SES Americom, Inc. (“SES Americom,” doing business as “SES”) respectfully requests expedited grant of special temporary authority (“STA”) for a period of 60 days, to permit SES to continue to use its South Mountain, CA earth station E970336 to communicate with the QuetzSat-1 spacecraft. Specifically, SES proposes to use E970336 to perform Tracking, Telemetry and Command (“TT&C”): (a) while QuetzSat-1 remains at 61.5° W.L.; (b) during a planned relocation of the satellite to the 77° W.L. Direct Broadcast Satellite (“DBS”) cluster;¹ and (c) on-station once the satellite arrives at the 77° W.L. cluster. STA is sought pending submission of and Commission action on a forthcoming application to modify the E970336 license in order to add QuetzSat-1 as an authorized point of communication.² As discussed below, grant of the requested authority is in the public interest.

¹ Initially QuetzSat-1 will be positioned at 77.05° W.L.+/- 0.05 degrees, but may be relocated in the future within the cluster (77.0° W.L. +/- 0.2 degrees).

² See 47 C.F.R. 25.120(b)(3) (“The Commission may grant a temporary authorization for a period not to exceed 60 days , if the STA request has not been placed on public notice, and the applicant plans to file a request for regular authority for the service.”).

QuetzSat-1 is a foreign-licensed DBS spacecraft.³ The Commission previously authorized the use of the E970336 earth station for initial operational testing of QuetzSat-1 at 67.1° W.L. after it was successfully launched on September 29, 2011.⁴ More recently, SES was authorized to communicate with QuetzSat-1 during additional testing and relocation of the satellite to 61.5° W.L.⁵ At 61.5° W.L., the satellite was intended to provide bridge service allowing EchoStar 15 to be relocated pending the launch of EchoStar 16. SES understands that QuetzSat-1 is no longer required to provide service from 61.5° W.L. EchoStar 16 was launched on November 20, 2012, and is expected to arrive at 61.5° W.L. in late December 2012 or early January 2013, following successful completion of in-orbit testing. In anticipation of EchoStar 16's arrival, SES has received instructions from its customer, EchoStar 77 Corporation, to relocate QuetzSat-1 to 77.05° W.L.

Transmissions from the E970336 earth station to QuetzSat-1 will conform to the technical characteristics described in Attachment A. The drift of the spacecraft will be coordinated with other spacecraft operators consistent with industry practice. Furthermore, as with the prior E970336 STA, SES will accept interference from any regularly authorized network and will terminate operations if SES is notified that such a network is experiencing harmful interference.⁶ The positioning of QuetzSat-1 in the 77° W.L. DBS cluster and the use of

³ QuetzSat-1 is currently operating under a U.K. Outer Space Act license and will be registered as a U.K. space object. Upon its arrival at the 77° W.L. DBS cluster, the satellite will commence operating under a license granted by Mexico.

⁴ See File No. SES-STA-20110729-00873 (grant-stamped Sept. 12, 2011). The authority was extended in File No. SES-STA-20110928-01151 (grant-stamped Oct. 24, 2011).

⁵ See File No. SES-STA-20120917-00826 (grant-stamped Sept. 24, 2012) ("E970336 STA"); extension requested in File No. SES-STA-20121017-00937.

⁶ See *id.*

E970336 to perform on-station TT&C with QuetzSat-1 has been coordinated with the other DBS satellites within that cluster.

Grant of this request is in the public interest. The requested TT&C authority will facilitate the safe operation of QuetzSat-1.

SES hereby certifies that no party to this application is subject to a denial of federal benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 862.

For the foregoing reasons, SES respectfully requests special temporary authority to communicate with QuetzSat-1 for a period of up to 60 days in order to conduct TT&C as described herein. SES expects to commence relocation no earlier than December 11, 2012, and respectfully requests expedited action on this request before that date.

Respectfully submitted,

SES AMERICOM, INC.

By: /s/ Daniel C.H. Mah

Of Counsel
Karis A. Hastings
SatCom Law LLC
1317 F Street, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20004
Tel: (202) 599-0975

Daniel C.H. Mah
Regulatory Counsel
SES Americom, Inc.
Four Research Way
Princeton, NJ 08540

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ATTACHMENT A
E970336 Technical Information

TT&C Emissions

Emission Designator: 1M00G7W

Max EIRP: 86.5 dBW

Max EIRP Density: 62.5 dBW/4kHz

Tx Frequency Range: 17300-17800 MHz

Rx Frequency Range: 12200-12700 MHz

Polarization: Left and Right Circular