

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

> Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority Hagerstown, Maryland Earth Station KA258

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC ("Intelsat") herein requests a grant of Special Temporary Authority ("STA")<sup>1</sup> for 30 days, from July 19, 2013 through August 17, 2013, to use its Hagerstown, Maryland Ku-band earth station -- call sign KA258 -- to provide launch and early orbit phase ("LEOP") services for the Astra-2E satellite that is expected to be launched on July 19, 2013.<sup>2</sup> The LEOP period is expected to last approximately ten days.<sup>3</sup>

The Astra-2E LEOP operations will be performed in the following frequency bands: 17309.5 MHz and 18090.0 MHz in the uplink (RHCP or LHCP), and 11707.5 MHz, 11453.5 MHz, and 12493.0 MHz in the downlink (RHCP or LHCP). The LEOP operations will be coordinated with all operators of satellites that use the same frequency bands and are in the LEOP path. As such, there would be no risk of interference with respect to lawfully operating, co-frequency radiocommunication facilities. Nevertheless, all operators of satellites in that path will be provided with an emergency phone number where the licensee can be reached in the event that harmful interference occurs.

The 24x7 contact information for the Astra-2E LEOP mission is as follows:

Ph.: (202) 944-7701 – East Coast Operations Center (primary) (310) 525-5900 – West Coast Operations Center (back-up)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Intelsat has filed its STA request, an FCC Form 159, a \$180.00 filing fee and this supporting letter electronically via the International Bureau's Filing System ("IBFS").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The permanent orbital location for Astra-2E, which is licensed by Luxembourg, will be 28.2° E.L. The in-orbit testing location will be 43.5° E.L.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Intelsat is seeking authority through August 17, 2013 to accommodate a possible launch delay.

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Request to speak with Harry Burnham or Kevin Bell.

In addition, Intelsat attaches Exhibits A-C, which contain two waiver requests as well as technical information indicating that the operation of the earth station will be compatible with its electromagnetic environment and will not cause harmful interference into any lawfully operating terrestrial or government facility. In the extremely unlikely event that harmful interference should occur due to transmissions to or from its earth station, Intelsat will take all reasonable steps to eliminate the interference. Intelsat also notes that for purposes of the Astra-2E LEOP mission, it is seeking to operate in the frequencies listed in the request at a maximum input power level not to exceed 23.5 dBW.

Intelsat notes that during the Astra-2E launch, the spacecraft will be controlled by EADS Astrium, which is the satellite's manufacturer and the manager of the launch mission. EADS Astrium will build and send the commands to the Intelsat antenna, which will process and execute the commands. Telemetry received by Intelsat will be forwarded to EADS Astrium. Intelsat will remain in control of the baseband unit, RF equipment and antenna.

Grant of this STA request will allow Intelsat to help launch the Astra-2E satellite to the 28.2° E.L. location. This, in turn, will help ensure continuity of service at that location and thereby promotes the public interest.

Please direct any questions regarding this STA request to the undersigned at (202) 944-7848.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Crandall

Assistant General Counsel

**Intelsat Corporation** 

c: Paul Blais