September 10, 2013

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, commencing October 23, 2013, to use its Hagerstown, Maryland Ku-band earth station -- call sign KA258 -- to provide launch and early orbit phase ("LEOP") services for the SES-8 satellite that is expected to be launched on October 23, 2013.<sup>2</sup> The LEOP period is expected to last approximately ten days.<sup>3</sup>

The SES-8 LEOP operations will be performed in the following frequency bands: 13996.0 MHz in the uplink (CP), and 12248.5 MHz and 11198.5 MHz in the downlink (CP). The LEOP operations will be coordinated with all operators of satellites that use the same frequency bands and are in the LEOP path.<sup>4</sup> 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 SES-8 LEOP mission is as follows:

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

Request to speak with Harry Burnham or Kevin Bell.

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<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").

The permanent orbital location for SES-8, which is licensed by the Netherlands, will be 95.0° E.L. The in-orbit testing location will be 81.5° E.L. Intelsat is seeking authority for 30 days to accommodate possible launch delays.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Orbital Sciences Corporation ("Orbital"), the manager of the SES-8 LEOP mission, will handle the coordination.

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In addition, Intelsat attaches Exhibit A, which contains a waiver request. 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 SES-8 LEOP mission, it is seeking to operate in the frequencies listed in the request at power levels not to exceed 25.5 dBW.

Finally, Intelsat clarifies that during the SES-8 launch, the spacecraft will be controlled by Orbital. Orbital 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 Orbital. 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 SES-8 satellite. This, in turn, will help ensure continuity of service at the 95.0° E.L. orbital 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** 

cc: Paul Blais