

Astrium Services Government, Inc.

Request for Special Temporary Authority to Operate
Sinaero 1.2 Meter Flyaway Model SA-1.2TFLY Remote Antennas to
Provide Ku-band VSAT Network Service;
And Operate

Sea Tel Model 6006 1.5 Meter Remote Antennas,
Thrane & Thrane Model TT-7080A Sailor 800A 0.83 Meter Remote Antennas, and
Thrane & Thrane Model TT-7090B Sailor 900B 1.0 Meter Remote Antennas
To Provide Ku-band Earth Station on Vessel (ESV) Service

Call Sign KA313

FILE NO. SES-MOD-20131108-00955
SES-STA-20140211-00052

Astrium Services Government, Inc. (Astrium) requests a grant of Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) to operate Sinaero 1.2.Meter Flyaway Model SA-1.2TFLY remote antennas to provide Ku-band VSAT Network service and operate Sea Tel Model 6006 1.5 Meter remote antennas, Thrane & Thrane Model TT-7080A Sailor 800A 0.83 Meter remote antennas, and Thrane & Thrane Model TT-7090B Sailor 900B 1.0 Meter remote antennas to Provide ESV service pursuant to its call sign KA313 license VSAT Network and ESV authorizations. The STA is requested to allow Astrium to continue to operate these antennas while the Commission processes Astrium’s pending application for permanent authority. The Sinaero antennas will be located in the U.S. and U.S. territories and the ESV antennas will be located on vessels traveling in U.S. and international waters. All will operate through hub antennas already authorized by the Commission. As with the application for permanent authority, the STA is requested to operate the antennas in the Ku-band to communicate via All Authorized U.S. Domestic Satellites on the Space Station Permitted List and provide VSAT Network and ESV service in the same manner as previously authorized by the Commission for existing KA313 licensed VSAT Network and ESV antennas.

Astrium’s Showing of Compliance that the antennas comply with the Commission’s Rules is set forth in the pending Application and Exhibits to same which are hereby incorporated by reference. As detailed therein, the antennas fully comply with all Commission Regulations and no waivers are needed or requested for operation of the antennas.

Grant of STA to operate the Sinaero VSAT Network antennas is in the public interest because a primary purpose of this product is for use in emergency and disaster situations. STA will enable Astrium to make this communications capability available for emergency response, rescue and relief activities in situations where local and global communications infrastructure has been destroyed by natural or man-made disasters.

Grant of STA to operate the Sea Tel and Thrane & Thrane ESV antennas is in the public interest because it will enable Astrium to enhance the communications options that can be made available to maritime customers. This will benefit the public in general due to the wide range of vessels in the commercial maritime sector which benefit from ESV services. These include vessels involved in oil and gas exploration and production, oil transport tankers, offshore supply vessels, cruise ships, container ships, car carriers, research vessels, and cable laying vessels. Many of these vessels are often at sea for prolonged periods and have limited communications with the outside world. In addition to enhancing the capabilities that ESV services provide for crucial emergency communications, additional ESV options facilitate access to the internet, telephone, and email by crew personnel while at sea thus providing a much needed lifeline that contributes to the crew members' health, well-being, and safety.

Over and above these general benefits to the public, enhancement of ESV communications options is specifically in the public interest because of the value it has for ESV customers involved in activities to alleviate United States dependence on foreign sources of energy. Vessels involved in offshore oil and gas exploration and production require continuous and reliable communications and ever increasing volumes of bandwidth to support operation, safety, environmental and regulatory requirements.

ESV services are utilized extensively by seismic vessels exploring for new offshore sources of oil and gas. In addition to the value of ESV services for emergency communications and ship operations for these vessels, ESVs are utilized to transmit huge amounts of data back to the vessels' headquarters for evaluation and analysis. Logistics and service vessels which support offshore drilling and production platforms rely on ESV services to enhance emergency communications capabilities and for day to day vessel operations and crew welfare. Finally, ESV services are of extraordinary value in responding to production incidents. A prime example of this was the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill. ESV services were heavily utilized by vessels that played various key roles in the evaluation, coordination and implementation of the response to that disaster. Enhancement of ESV capabilities that can be made available to vessels that may need to respond to other such incidents at any time is clearly in the public interest.

Accordingly, Astrium respectfully requests that the Bureau grant the STA for an additional sixty days for Astrium to operate the Sinaero antennas to provide VSAT Network service and the Sea Tel and Thrane & Thrane antennas to provide ESV service. Any questions with respect to this matter may be directed to James G. Lovelace at (301)838-7839.