

Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authority

On April 3, 2014, O3b Limited (“O3b”) submitted a request for special temporary authority (“STA”) for a 30-day period, beginning on May 30, 2014, to conduct tests (the “Tests”) at a facility in Melbourne, Florida (the “30-Day STA Request”).¹ The Tests, which will be conducted using up to three 2.2m earth station antennas that will operate in the 18.3-18.6 GHz and 28.35-28.4 GHz bands, will enable O3b to establish performance standards and operational requirements for the antennas.

Pursuant to Section 25.120 of the Commission’s rules,² O3b hereby requests an STA extension enabling it to continue the Tests during the 180-day period between June 29, 2014, and December 26, 2014.

O3b’s extension request is supported by good cause. The International Bureau previously granted an STA (the “Prior STA”) for O3b to conduct earth station antenna tests at the same location as the proposed Tests.³ The Prior STA authorized operation of the same type of 2.2m earth station antenna as the STA Antennas, but on different frequencies than the Tests.⁴ The same public interest considerations that supported the grant of O3b’s Prior STA also support a grant of this STA Request.

The technical parameters of the Tests, moreover, will protect other services. As demonstrated in the Technical Statement that accompanied the 30-Day STA Request, the Tests will comply with EPFD uplink and downlink limits that the Commission has found provide a sufficient basis for an NGSO FSS system to operate on a noninterference basis in bands, such as the 18.3-18.6 GHz and 28.35-28.4 GHz bands covered by this STA request, in which GSO FSS systems are primary.⁵ The Tests, therefore, will provide the requisite level of protection for GSO FSS systems.⁶

Accordingly, and for good cause shown, O3b respectfully requests that its STA extension request be granted.

¹ FCC File No. SES-STA-20140403-00233.

² 47 C.F.R. § 25.120.

³ See FCC File No. SES-STA-20130620-00515 (submitted Jun. 20, 2013; granted Aug. 14, 2013) (an extension request is pending).

⁴ The Prior STA authorized tests in the 18.8-19.3 GHz and 28.6-29.1 GHz bands. As stated above, this STA Request seeks authority to conduct Tests in the 18.3-18.6 GHz and 28.35-28.4 GHz bands.

⁵ See contactMEO Communications, LLC, 21 FCC Rcd 4035, 4043-4044 (IB 2006).

⁶ O3b also showed in the Technical Statement that the earth station antenna patterns for the proposed uplink transmissions conform to the antenna performance mask specified in Sections 25.209(a) and (b) of the Commission’s rules, and that there are no terrestrial stations in the United States that require protection vis-à-vis the Tests.