

February 19, 2015

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

Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority  
Hagerstown, Maryland Earth Station E000296

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) herein requests a grant of Special Temporary Authority (“STA”)<sup>1</sup> for 30 days, commencing March 17, 2015, to use its Hagerstown, Maryland C-band earth station—call sign E000296—to provide launch and early orbit phase (“LEOP”) services for the ExpressAM-7 satellite. ExpressAM-7 is expected to be launched March 17, 2015.<sup>2</sup> The LEOP period is expected to last approximately 10 days.<sup>3</sup>

The ExpressAM-7 LEOP operations will be performed in the following frequency bands: 6535.00 MHz in the uplink (LHCP and RHCP), and 3800.00 MHz and 3801.00 MHz in the downlink (LHCP and RHCP). 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 ExpressAM-7 LEOP mission is as follows:

Ph.: (703) 559-7701 – East Coast Operations Center (primary)  
(310) 525-5591 – West Coast Operations Center (back-up)

Request to speak with Harry Burnham or Kevin Bell.

In further support of this request, Intelsat hereby attaches Exhibits A and B, which contain technical information that demonstrates that the operation of the earth station will be compatible with its

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<sup>1</sup> Intelsat has filed its STA request, an FCC Form 159, a \$195.00 filing fee, and this supporting letter electronically via the International Bureau’s Filing System (“IBFS”).

<sup>2</sup> The permanent orbital location for ExpressAM-7, which Intelsat understands is licensed by the Russia, will be at 40.0° E.L. The in-orbit testing location will be 40.0° E.L.

<sup>3</sup> Intelsat is seeking authority for 30 days to accommodate a possible launch delay.

<sup>4</sup> Airbus, the manager of the ExpressAM-7 LEOP mission, will handle the coordination.

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electromagnetic environment and will not cause harmful interference into any lawfully operating terrestrial facility, as well as a waiver request. Intelsat also notes that for purposes of the ExpressAM-7 LEOP mission, it is seeking to operate in the frequencies listed in the request at power levels not to exceed 25.5 dBW. The technical information submitted with this STA request reflects a power level as high as 31.3 dBW because Intelsat might operate at this level in the event an emergency necessitates the use of a higher power level in order to command the satellite. 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.

Finally, Intelsat clarifies that during the ExpressAM-7 launch, Airbus will control the spacecraft. Airbus 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 Airbus. 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 ExpressAM-7 satellite. This, in turn, will help ensure continuity of service at the 40.0° E.L. orbital location and thereby promotes the public interest.

Please direct any questions regarding this STA request to the undersigned at (703) 559-6949.

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia J. Grady  
Regulatory Counsel  
Intelsat Corporation

cc: Paul Blais