

REQUEST FOR SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

Call Sign: E070027

DIRECTV Enterprises, LLC (“DIRECTV”) hereby requests Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) for up to 30 days to conduct in-orbit testing (IOT) for the DIRECTV 15/DIRECTV RB-2 satellites (call signs 2930 and S2712, respectively) while at the 66.8° W.L. orbital location, from its Castle Rock, Colorado earth station (call sign E070027). This earth station is licensed to operate in the Ka-band FSS and the 24750-25050 MHz BSS feeder link frequency bands but 66.8° W.L. is not listed as a point of communication. In this application, DIRECTV makes two requests for STA. First, that the earth station be authorized to communicate with DIRECTV 15/DIRECTV RB-2 at 66.8° W.L. for the duration of the IOT; and second, that the earth station be temporarily authorized to operate across the 24750-25130 MHz frequency band at that location during this IOT. DIRECTV requests that the STA be structured to begin upon arrival of the satellite at 66.8° W.L.

DIRECTV RB-2 is a fully capable 17/24 GHz BSS payload on the DIRECTV 15 satellite. That satellite is currently at the launch site and is scheduled for launch on May 20, 2015. DIRECTV has requested temporary authority to conduct IOT of the Ka-band and 17/24 GHz BSS at 66.8° W.L. before moving the satellite to its licensed orbital location.¹ The STA requested herein will support the IOT phase of the DIRECTV 15/RB-2 mission. DIRECTV notes that the earth station in question lies in the Denver-Boulder-Greeley, CO-KS-NE BEA141, and that FiberTower holds a 24 GHz Service license for this BEA (call sign WQCJ304). DIRECTV notes, however, that the WQCJ304 license only authorizes use of the two 40 MHz channels extending from 24330-24370 MHz and 25130-25170 MHz. As such, there is no frequency overlap between these channels and DIRECTV’s request, and therefore no possibility for interference to this 24 GHz Service licensee. DIRECTV will coordinate with potentially affected satellite operators in accordance with industry practice, and will operate on a non-interference basis during this IOT.

The requested STA will serve the public interest by ensuring that the DIRECTV 15/RB-2 satellite is properly tested to assure that it will operate safely and is in good working order so that it can make productive use of valuable spectrum/orbital resources as soon as possible. Accordingly, DIRECTV respectfully requests that the Commission grant this STA request as expeditiously as possible.

¹ See IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20150415-00023. DIRECTV has also requested authority to test the DBS payload on DIRECTV 15, and will file a separate STA request for the earth station involved in such testing.