

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of

Application of Exxon Communications)	
Company for a Special Temporary)	File No:
Authorization to Operate a Fixed Earth)	
Station Terminal with Permitted List)	Call Sign: E000001
Satellites in the 5.925-6.425 GHz (Earth-to-)	
space) and 3.7-4.2 GHz (space-to-Earth))	
Frequency Bands)	

Application for Special Temporary Authorization

Pursuant to Section 25.120 of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission Rules”), 47 C.F.R. § 25.120, Exxon Communications Company (“Exxon”) seeks a special temporary authorization (“STA”) to operate its licensed Sea Tel Model 9797 C-band terminal on the Hoover Diana – a stationary oil and gas rig located in the Gulf of Mexico (26° 56’ 20.8" N, 94° 41’ 20.0" W) – while communicating with satellites on the Commission’s Permitted Space Station List (“Permitted List”). Presently under the license, the terminal is authorized to communicate with certain satellite points of communication in the C-band.

The requested STA will afford Exxon short-term operating authority during the pendency of its concurrently filed modification application¹ to add Permitted List authority. Grant of the requested STA is essential to ensure that there is no lapse in essential satellite-based services to the oil platform in the context of an upcoming change in serving satellite capacity scheduled for late January/early February 2016. Exxon seeks an STA for a period of up to 60 days, commencing no later than January 20, 2016.

¹ See Application of Exxon Communications Company for Modification of Fixed Earth Station License to Add Permitted List Authority (“*Modification Application*”).

I. DISCUSSION

Exxon requests authority to operate the earth station terminal with U.S. licensed satellite and non-U.S. licensed satellites on the Commission's Permitted Space Station List. Exxon has previously coordinated the satellite arc range from 57° W.L. to 150° W.L. and certifies that the remaining technical information in its earth station license and associated application² remains unchanged.

The frequency coordination analysis that was previously conducted by Comsearch demonstrates that Exxon may operate the Sea Tel 9797 earth station terminal from 57° W.L. to 150° W.L. and will not cause harmful interference. Comsearch sent a coordination notice to existing licensees in the band within relevant coordination distances and no objections were received from incumbent licensees. Accordingly, Exxon's proposed operations are fully compatible with other FCC-licensed operations. The requested modification will serve the public interest by enhancing Exxon's satellite communication capabilities on the Hoover Diana, thereby improving the critical services provided to crew members for business and emergency operations.

III. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION

Exxon respectfully requests expedited processing of this STA request under Section 25.120. Section 25.120(a) provides that STA requests should be filed at least three working days prior to the date of commencement of the proposed operations. Here, Exxon seeks to commence operations on or after January 20, 2016.

Pursuant to Section 25.120(b)(3), Exxon is filing for 60-day STA to ensure proper short-term authorizations during the pendency of its earth station modification application. Section 25.120(b)(3) provides that the Commission may grant STA for a period not to exceed 60 days if it has not placed the STA request on public notice and the applicant plans to file a request for regular authority for the service. Here, Exxon has concurrently filed a request to modify its license to add Permitted List authority.³

Due to a change in satellite capacity, Exxon requires near-term use of Permitted List satellites to accommodate the capacity adjustment and ensure there is no lapse in

² See File No. SES-MFS-20130228-00221 (Call Sign E000001).

³ See *Modification Application*, IBFS No. **IB2016000167** (filed 1/19/2016).

vital satellite communication services. Given the near-term commencement of the proposed operations and that they have been fully coordinated, expedited processing of this STA request is warranted and will ensure properly authorized temporary operations while the Commission reviews Exxon's modification application.

Grant of the requested authority will serve the public interest by allowing the near-term use of the terminal on the Hoover Diana to communicate with Permitted List satellites, which will greatly benefit employees and personnel and accelerate the expansion of C-band satellite communications services. Accordingly, Exxon respectfully submits that the public interest will be served by grant of the requested STA no later than January 20, 2016.

IV. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Exxon respectfully requests that the Commission grant its 60-day STA request to allow the Sea Tel 9797 terminal to communicate with satellites on the Permitted List in the C-band on the Hoover Diana no later than January 20, 2016.