

Airbus DS Satcom Government, Inc.
Request for Special Temporary Authority to
Add the Inmarsat -3 F5 Satellite at 54° W.L as a
Point of Communication for
Antenna IDs 21CNORM, 21CTTC & 21LBAND

Southbury, CT Teleport Call Sign WA28

FILE NO. SES-MFS-20140804-00632

IB2016000510

Airbus DS SatCom Government, Inc. (“ASGI”) hereby requests Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) for 60 days beginning on February 24, 2016 to add the Inmarsat-3 F5 satellite (the “I3F5” satellite) at the 54° W.L. orbital location as a point of communication for the WA28 Antenna IDs 21CNORM, 21CTTC and 21LBAND earth station.

At present, Inmarsat operates the Inmarsat-3 F4 satellite (the “I3F4” satellite) at 54° W.L. It was added to the ISAT List at this location in 2009,¹ and has been operating there for over six years without incident. Inmarsat has filed an application to amend the ISAT List to replace I3F4 with I3F5 (*see* IBFS File No. SAT-PPL-20160111-00001)² and ASGI has filed a Modification Application to permanently add I3F5 as a point of communication for the above referenced earth station. As explained in Inmarsat’s application, the I3F4 and I3F5 satellites were the last of a series of third-generation Inmarsat satellites built by Lockheed Martin and Matra Marconi Space,

¹ *See* Grant Stamp, IBFS File Nos. SAT-PPL-20090107-00003 and SAT-APL-20090115-00005 (Apr. 6, 2009).

² To the extent necessary, ASGI hereby incorporates by reference the technical information provided in Inmarsat’s application.

and have virtually identical designs. Accordingly, the I3F5 satellite will operate with the same parameters, and provide the same types of “existing and evolved” Inmarsat services, as the I3F4 satellite it is replacing. I3F5 arrived at its new location recently and Inmarsat has scheduled traffic transfer to begin on February 24, 2016.

The requested STA would serve the public interest by allowing ASGI to support Inmarsat’s transition of services to a new satellite while the Commission processes ASGI’s and Inmarsat’s full applications, ensuring continuity of services to, from, and within the United States during the reconfiguration of Inmarsat’s in-orbit fleet. Because the new satellite will operate with the same parameters as the one it is replacing, and ASGI is not requesting any change in authorized parameters for its earth station, the requested STA will not change the existing interference environment. ASGI therefore respectfully requests that the Commission grant this STA request as expeditiously as possible.

Any questions with respect to this matter may be directed to James G. Lovelace at (703) 466-5945.