

Satcom Direct Government, Inc.

Request for Special Temporary Authority to
Add the Inmarsat -3 F5 Satellite at 54° W.L as a
Point of Communication for
Mobile Earth Stations Authorized per the Call Sign E000280 License

FILE NO. SES-RWL-20110727-00894

Satcom Direct Government, Inc. (“SDGI”) hereby requests Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) for 60 days beginning on March 18, 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 blanket licensed mobile earth stations authorized per the call sign E000280 license.

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. 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, 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 March 21, 2016.

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

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

The requested STA would serve the public interest by allowing SDGI to support Inmarsat's transition of services to a new satellite while the Commission processes Inmarsat's full application, 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 Inmarsat is not requesting any change in authorized parameters for its earth station, the requested STA will not change the existing interference environment. SDGI 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 (571) 599-3643.