

May 3, 2016

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 KA275

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) herein requests a grant of Special Temporary Authority (“STA”)¹ for 30 days, commencing May 26, 2016, to use its Hagerstown, Maryland C-band earth station—call sign KA275—to provide launch and early orbit phase (“LEOP”) services for the Thaicom 8 satellite. Thaicom 8 is expected to be launched on May 26, 2016.² The LEOP period is expected to last approximately 10 days.³

The Thaicom 8 LEOP operations will be performed in the following frequencies: 6420.00 MHz and 6423.00 MHz in the uplink (RHCP), and 4196.0 MHz and 4197.0 MHz in the downlink (LHCP). The LEOP operations will be coordinated with all operators of satellites that use the same frequency bands and are in the LEOP path.⁴ 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 Thaicom-8 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.

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 electromagnetic environment and will not cause harmful interference into any lawfully operating terrestrial facility, as well as a waiver request.

¹ 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”).

² The permanent orbital location for Thaicom 8, which Intelsat understands is licensed by Thailand, will be at 78.5° E.L. The in-orbit testing location will be 78.0° E.L.

³ Intelsat is seeking authority for 30 days to accommodate a possible launch delay.

⁴ Orbital ATK, the manager of the Thaicom 8 mission, will handle the coordination.

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Intelsat also notes that for purposes of the Thaicom 8 LEOP mission, it is seeking to operate in the frequencies listed in this request at power levels not to exceed 31.2 dBW. 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 Thaicom 8 launch, Orbital ATK will serve as the mission manager. Orbital ATK 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 Orbital ATK. 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 Thaicom 8 satellite. This, in turn, will help provide services in Thailand, India, and Africa from the 78.5° 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cynthia J. Grady". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Cynthia J. Grady
Regulatory Counsel
Intelsat Corporation

cc: Paul Blais