

January 13, 2017

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authority
9.2m Ka-band Antenna, Riverside, California

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) herein requests an additional 30 days of Special Temporary Authority (“STA”)¹ previously granted Intelsat to utilize its 9.2m Ka-band antenna located at its Riverside, California teleport to provide launch and early orbit phase (“LEOP”) services for the Echostar-21 satellite.² The satellite’s launch has been delayed and currently is scheduled for February 5, 2017.³ The LEOP period is expected to last approximately 10 days.⁴

The Echostar-21 LEOP operations will be performed at the following frequencies: 27.997 GHz and 27.999 GHz (LHCP) in the uplink, and 18.697 GHz and 18.699 GHz in the downlink (RHCP). The LEOP operations will be coordinated with all operators of satellites that use the same frequency bands and are in the LEOP path.⁵ 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 Echostar-21 LEOP 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.

¹ Intelsat has filed its STA request, an FCC Form 159, a \$200.00 filing fee, and this supporting letter electronically via the International Bureau’s Filing System (“IBFS”).

² See *Satellite Communications Services Information; Actions Taken*, Report No. SES-01918, File No. SES-STA-20161118-00896 (Jan. 4, 2017) (Public Notice).

³ The in-orbit testing and the permanent orbital location of Echostar-21, which Intelsat understands is licensed by France, will be 10.25° E.L.

⁴ Intelsat is seeking authority for an additional 30 days to accommodate a possible further launch delay.

⁵ SSL, the manager of the Echostar-21 LEOP mission, will handle the coordination.

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In further support of this extension request, Intelsat incorporates by reference 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, and a waiver request.

Finally, Intelsat clarifies that during the Echostar-21 mission, SSL will serve as the mission manager. SSL 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 SSL. Intelsat will perform the ranging sessions by sending a tone to the spacecraft periodically. Intelsat will remain in control of the baseband unit, RF equipment, and antenna.

Grant of this STA extension request will allow Intelsat to help launch the Echostar-21 satellite. This, in turn, will help provide services at the 10.25° 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 written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "G" and "y".

Cynthia J. Grady
Regulatory Counsel
Intelsat Corporation

cc: Paul Blais