

February 1, 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  
Hagerstown, Maryland Earth Station KA258

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) herein requests an additional 30 days of Special Temporary Authority (“STA”)<sup>1</sup> previously granted Intelsat to use its Hagerstown, Maryland Ku-band earth station—call sign KA258—to provide launch and early orbit phase (“LEOP”) services for the EchoStar-23 satellite.<sup>2</sup> EchoStar-23 is currently expected to be launched on February 28, 2017.<sup>3</sup> Intelsat expects the LEOP period to last approximately ten days.<sup>4</sup>

The EchoStar-23 LEOP operations will be performed in the following frequency bands<sup>5</sup> and at the following frequencies: 17300.0 MHz – 17310.0 MHz, 17305.0 MHz, and 17791.0 MHz in the uplink (RHCP or LHCP); and 12200.0 MHz – 12100.0 MHz, 12207.0 MHz, and 12208.0 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.<sup>6</sup> 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-23 LEOP mission is as follows:

Ph.: (703) 559-7701 – East Coast Operations Center (primary)  
(310) 525-5591 – West Coast Operations Center (back-up)

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<sup>1</sup> 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”).

<sup>2</sup> See *Satellite Communications Services information; Actions Taken*, Report No. SES-01918, File No. SES-STA-20161207-00937 (Jan. 4, 2017) (Public Notice).

<sup>3</sup> The in-orbit testing location for EchoStar-23, which Intelsat understands is licensed by Brazil, will be at 67.1° W.L. The final location of EchoStar-23 will be at 45.1° W.L.

<sup>4</sup> Intelsat is seeking an additional 30 days to accommodate any further launch delays.

<sup>5</sup> The frequencies used within these ranges are tunable in 0.5 MHz steps.

<sup>6</sup> SSL, the manager of the EchoStar-23 LEOP mission, will handle the coordination.

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Request to speak with Harry Burnham or Kevin Bell.

In further support of this 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. 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 EchoStar-23 LEOP 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-23 satellite. This, in turn, will help provide additional capacity from the 45.1° W.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,



Cynthia J. Grady  
Regulatory Counsel  
Intelsat Corporation

cc: Paul Blais