

February 27, 2017

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

Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority
Ellenwood, Georgia Earth Station E980502

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) herein requests 180 days, beginning May 1, 2017, of Special Temporary Authority (“STA”)¹ to use its Ellenwood, Georgia Ku-band earth station—call sign E980502—to provide telemetry, tracking, and command (“TT&C”) services for Intelsat 9 (S2380) during its drift from 43.1° W.L. to 29.5° W.L., and on-station at 29.5° W.L.² Intelsat 9 is expected to begin drifting no earlier than April 1, 2017, and the drift will take approximately two months.³

TT&C operations will be performed in the following frequencies: 14000.5 MHz and 14494.5 MHz (Earth-to-space); and 11700.5 MHz and 11702.0 MHz (space-to-Earth). The drift operations will be coordinated with all operators of satellites that use the same frequency bands and are in the drift 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 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.

The proposed TT&C operations at 29.5° W.L. will be consistent with Intelsat’s coordination agreements for the 29.5° W.L. orbital location. In the unlikely event that harmful interference occurs, Intelsat will take all necessary steps to eliminate the interference.

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 *Policy Branch Information; Satellite Space Applications Accepted for Filing*, Report No. SAT-01217, File No. SAT-AMD-20170208-00016 (Public Notice) (Feb. 17, 2017).

³ Intelsat is simultaneously filing a 30-day STA request for the first half of the drift of Intelsat 9. Intelsat also intends to file a permanent application for this antenna to support Intelsat 9 operations at 29.5° W.L.

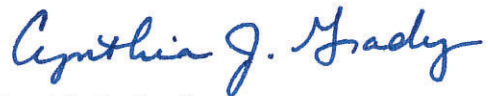
⁴ Intelsat will handle the coordination.

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Grant of this STA request will allow Intelsat to drift the Intelsat 9 satellite to, and safely station-keep the satellite at, its new location. This, in turn, will allow Intelsat to add additional capacity at the 29.5° 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cynthia J. Grady". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Cynthia J. Grady
Regulatory Counsel
Intelsat Corporation

cc: Paul Blais