

REQUEST FOR SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation (“Anadarko”), pursuant to Section 1.931 of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC” or “Commission”), respectfully requests Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) effective as soon as possible for a period of 180 days, or until it has secured regular authority for modifications to its Earth Station licenses identified by Call Signs E140005 (Lucius Spar), E030216 (Marco Polo), and E150008 (Heidelberg), (the “Earth Stations”) as discussed below.

Background

Anadarko is among the largest independent oil and natural gas exploration and production companies in the world, with approximately 2.06 billion barrels of oil equivalent of proved reserves at year-end 2015. Anadarko’s operations are weighted towards resource plays in Texas and the southern US, the Rocky Mountain region in Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah, as well as the Appalachian region and Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania and the Gulf of Mexico. Anadarko’s Earth Stations provide voice and data services to personnel on its Lucius Spar, Marco Polo, Heidelberg, and Independence Hub oil platforms in the Gulf of Mexico.

Special Temporary Authority

The Commission may grant STA “in emergency situations,” “to permit restoration or relocation of existing facilities to continue communications service,” and “in other situations involving circumstances which are of such extraordinary nature that delay in the institution of temporary operation would seriously prejudice the public interest.”¹ Anadarko’s C-band Earth Stations provide critical broadband connectivity for voice and data transmissions to and from its oil platforms. The bandwidth currently authorized under its Earth Station licenses is not sufficient to support Anadarko’s communications requirements.

Anadarko seeks STA to permit operation of its Earth Stations with the added Emission Designator 9M38G7W. Micronet Communications, Inc. has completed its initial frequency coordination review and has certified that all sites pass with the requested bandwidth and Micronet has certified that the Maximum EIRP Density will not increase beyond what is currently authorized under the existing licenses. Moreover, Anadarko will submit regular authority modification applications to add the new Emission Designator once frequency coordination is complete.

Without increased bandwidth, Anadarko’s satellite communications capabilities will be limited during the pendency of its modification applications, which will limit critical communications supporting Anadarko’s oil production in the Gulf of Mexico. Reliable broadband connectivity is critical to operational integrity and the safety of personnel and the environment. Anadarko’s C-Band transmissions are the most important component of its communications for its production platforms.

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 1.931(b)(2)(ii),(v).

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation
Fixed Satellite Service, Earth Stations

In light of the foregoing, Anadarko submits that grant of the requested STA will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity and favorable Commission action is warranted.

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Should the Commission require additional information, it is asked to contact Wes Wright or Tim Doughty of Keller and Heckman LLP, 1001 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20001; (202)434-4296; e-mail: wright@khlaw.com; (202)434-4271; e-mail: doughty@khlaw.com.