

March 10, 2017

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

Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority
Riverside, California Earth Station E040125

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) herein requests a grant of Special Temporary Authority (“STA”)¹ for 30 days, commencing March 27, 2017, to use its Riverside, California C-band earth station—call sign E040125—to provide launch and early orbit phase (“LEOP”) services for the GSAT-9 satellite. GSAT-9 is expected to be launched on March 27, 2017.² The LEOP period is expected to last approximately 10 days.³

The GSAT-9 LEOP operations will be performed at the following frequencies: 6415.00 MHz and 6423.496 MHz in the uplink (RHCP), and 4194.0 MHz and 4197.504 MHz in the downlink (LHCP). The LEOP operations will be coordinated with all operators of satellites that use the same frequencies 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 GSAT-9 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.

In further support of this request, Intelsat herewith 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. In the extremely unlikely event that harmful 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 The in-orbit testing and final location for GSAT-9, which Intelsat understands is licensed by India, will be at 48.0° E.L.

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

⁴ Indian Space Research Organisation (“ISRO”), the manager of the GSAT-9 mission, will handle the coordination.

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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 GSAT-9 LEOP mission, ISRO will serve as the mission manager. ISRO 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 ISRO. 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 request will allow Intelsat to help launch the GSAT-9 satellite 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 initial "C".

Cynthia J. Grady
Regulatory Counsel
Intelsat Corporation

cc: Paul Blais