

August 24, 2017

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

Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority
Hagerstown, Maryland Earth Station KA258

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) herein requests a grant of Special Temporary Authority (“STA”)¹ for 30 days, commencing September 9, 2017, to use its Hagerstown, Maryland Ku-band earth station—call sign KA258—to provide launch and early orbit phase (“LEOP”) services for the Amazonas-5 satellite; telemetry, tracking, and command (“TT&C”) during in-orbit testing (“IOT”) at 58.2° W.L; TT&C during the drift of Amazonas-5 to its final location of 61.0° W.L.; and TT&C at 61.0° W.L. until handoff. Amazonas-5 is expected to be launched on September 9, 2017.² Intelsat expects the LEOP period to last approximately 15 days and the IOT and drift period is expected to last approximately 46 days.

The Amazonas-5 LEOP operations will be performed at the following frequencies: 13999.5 MHz and 14499.5 MHz (Linear H, V, LHCP) in the uplink; and 12202.25 MHz and 11701.0 MHz (Linear H, V, RHCP) in the downlink. The proposed operations will be coordinated with all operators of satellites that use the same frequency bands and are in the LEOP path, the drift path, or are potentially affected by these operations at the IOT location.³ All operators of potentially affected satellites 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 Amazonas-5 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 Intelsat understands Amazonas-5 is licensed by Brazil.

³ SSL, the manager of the Amazonas-5 LEOP mission, will handle the coordination.

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In further support of this request, Intelsat herewith attaches Exhibits A and B, which contain a 13 GHz report 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 Amazonas-5 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 request will allow Intelsat to help launch, test, and place the Amazonas-5 satellite at its final location. This, in turn, will help provide additional capacity from the 61.0° 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