

March 21, 2018

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

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

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 Riverside, California C-band earth station—call sign E040125—to provide launch and early orbit phase (“LEOP”) services<sup>2</sup> for the GSAT-6A satellite. GSAT-6A, due to an unexpected delay, is now expected to launch on March 29, 2018.<sup>3</sup> Intelsat expects the LEOP period to last approximately 30 days.

The GSAT-6A LEOP operations will be performed at the following frequencies: 6415.0 MHz and 6417.16 MHz (RHCP) in the uplink, and 4190.976 MHz, 4198.272 MHz, and 4199.760 MHz (LHCP) in the downlink. The LEOP operations will be coordinated with all operators of satellites that use the same frequency bands and are in the LEOP path.<sup>4</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 GSAT-6A 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Intelsat has filed its STA request, 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-02027, File No. SES-STA-20180103-00005 (Jan. 17, 2017) (Public Notice).

<sup>3</sup> The in-orbit testing and final location for GSAT-6A, which Intelsat understands is licensed by India, will be 83.0° E.L.

<sup>4</sup> Indian Space Research Organisation (“ISRO”), the manager of the GSAT-6A mission, will handle the coordination.

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In further support of this extension request, Intelsat incorporates by reference, Exhibits A and B, which contain a coordination report and waiver requests. 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 GSAT-6A 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 extension request will allow Intelsat to help launch the GSAT-6A satellite. This will help provide services at the 83.0° E.L. location and thereby promotes the public interest.

Please direct any questions regarding this STA extension request to the undersigned at (703) 559-7848.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Cynthia J. Grady*

Cynthia J. Grady  
Regulatory Counsel  
Intelsat Corporation

cc: Paul Blais