

Public Interest Statement

Hawaii Pacific Teleport, L.P. (“HPT”) previously requested Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) for a period of sixty (60) days, commencing on October 26, 2018, to add the Telstar 18 VANTAGE (“T18V”) satellite as a point of communication to its earth station in Kapolei, Hawaii, Call Sign E010016.¹ The STA request sought authority to operate E010016 on an interim basis in accordance with the technical specifications in HPT’s pending application, which is hereby incorporated by reference, to modify the license for E010016 by adding T18V as a point of communication.² The STA and modification will enable HPT to provide telemetry, tracking and command (“TT&C”) and to support communications traffic for T18V, which is a replacement for Telstar 18.

The Commission has granted HPT’s STA request, effective October 26, 2018, for a 60-day period that runs through December 25, 2018. It is unclear, however, whether HPT’s modification application will be granted prior to the expiration of the STA. Out of an abundance of caution, HPT hereby requests an extension of its STA through the earlier of: (1) grant of the modification application; and (2) 180 days from December 25, 2018.

There is good cause for extending HPT’s STA, which will enable HPT to continue to control T18V under the direction and supervision of the satellite operator. This control is essential to maintaining the satellite in a safe and stable orbit. Such maintenance is not only vital for T18V, but for the protection of other satellites in orbit. Similarly, an extension of the STA will ensure continuity of service. Any gap in service would be severely detrimental to HPT and customers using T18V and would adversely affect the ability of HPT and the satellite operator to provide competitive services between the United States and Asia/Oceania in C-band.

Accordingly, and for good cause shown, HPT asks that its STA extension request be granted.

¹ See File No. SES-STA-20180928-02887 (granted on October 18, 2018). HPT originally requested an STA commencing on October 19, 2018, but later changed that to October 26, 2018. See email from Joseph A. Godles to Paul Blais, FCC, File No. SES-STA-20180928-02887 (Oct. 9, 2018).

² SES-MFS-20180921-02789.