

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of Application by)
SES AMERICOM, INC.) Call Sign E930436
For Special Temporary Authority to)
Communicate with NSS-6 to Perform TT&C)

Expedited Action Requested

REQUEST FOR SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

By this application, SES Americom, Inc. (“SES Americom” or “SES”) respectfully requests immediate earth station special temporary authority (“STA”) for a period of 30 days to permit SES to use its E930436 earth station to communicate with the NSS-6 spacecraft using extended and conventional Ku-band frequencies to provide Tracking, Telemetry and Command (“TT&C”) to maintain the satellite at 86.8° W.L. +/- 0.10° east/west station keeping. Short-term authority is sought pending action on the 180-day STA request SES has filed for these TT&C operations, which SES incorporates by reference herein.¹

As explained in the 180-day Request, use of the E930436 earth station is required to replace previously authorized NSS-6 TT&C services provided by call signs KA288 and E050287.² Following grant of the *NSS-6 Authorizations*, SES used the KA288 and E050287 earth station antennas to perform TT&C for NSS-6 at 86.8° W.L. However, on or about

¹ SES Americom, Inc., Call Sign E930436, File No. SES-STA-20191105-_____, IBFS Submission ID IB2019003772 (the “180-day Request”).

² SES Americom, Inc., Call Sign KA288, File No. SES-STA-20190325-00400, granted June 5, 2019; SES Americom, Inc., Call Sign E050287, File No. SES-STA-20190325-00487, granted June 5, 2019 (“*NSS-6 Authorizations*”).

September 20, 2019, a solar array power reduction on another SES space station occurred, causing SES to initiate urgent measures to determine whether service on that satellite could be maintained, and if not, to prepare for emergency orbit-raising of the satellite. As part of those efforts, SES ground systems personnel determined that the KA288 and E050287 antennas authorized for NSS-6 TT&C were needed to support other missions and shifted NSS-6 TT&C to E930436.

The antenna reassignment was made based on the incorrect assumption that the E930436 license, which allows communications with satellites on the Commission's Permitted Space Station List, authorized use of the earth station for NSS-6 TT&C, failing to recognize that NSS-6 has not been placed on the Permitted List for operations at 86.8° W.L. SES's regulatory team only recently became aware of the reassignment and took immediate action to inform the Commission and seek the necessary authority for E930436 to perform TT&C for NSS-6. SES regrets the delay in requesting the required authorization and has taken steps to educate its ground systems personnel on the relevant regulatory requirements to prevent future issues. As discussed in the 180-day Request, communications between E930436 and NSS-6 are consistent with Commission precedent and will not cause harmful interference to other satellites.

For the foregoing reasons, SES respectfully requests special temporary authority to communicate with NSS-6 for a period of up to 30 days to provide TT&C as described herein. Grant of the requested authority will serve the public interest by promoting safe operation of the satellite.

Respectfully submitted,

SES AMERICOM, INC.

By: /s/ Petra A. Vorwig

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