Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

September 29, 2020

Mr. Darryl White
Denali 20020, LLC
66 C Teleport Drive
Brewster, WA 98812
bts@usei-teleport.com

Mr. Stephen C. Hemple
ViaSat, Inc.
6155 El Camino Real
Carlsbad, CA 92009
Steven.Hemple@ViaSat.com

Ms. Frances May
University of Miami – CSTARS
11811 SW 168th St.
Miami, FL 33177
Fmay@cstars.miami.edu

Re: Astroscale ELSA-d mission
IBFS File Nos:
SES-STA-20200113-00043, Call Sign: E990066;
SES-STA-20200117-00055, Call Sign: E160161;
SES-STA-20200811-00859

Dear Mr. White, Mr. Hemple, and Ms. May:

In the above-captioned applications, three U.S. earth station applicants, Denali 20020, LLC, ViaSat, Inc., and University of Miami – CSTARs (collectively, applicants), have requested special temporary authority (STA) for communications with the Astroscale ESLA-d non-geostationary orbit (NGSO) spacecraft mission, which includes a "Client" and a "Servicer" space station. To aid in the Commission's consideration of the applicants' requests, please provide the following information:

1. Please complete and file a Form 312- Schedule S for the Astroscale ELSA-d "Client" and the "Servicer" space stations, in the appropriate application files. The Denali 20020 and University of Miami – CSTARs applications request communications with the "Servicer" space station, and the ViaSat application requests communications with the "Client" space station.

2. The Commission's rules specify that for non-U.S.-licensed spaces stations, the requirement to describe the design and operational strategies to minimize orbital debris risk can be satisfied by demonstrating that debris mitigation plans for the space stations are subject to direct and effective regulatory oversight by the national licensing authority.[1] In support of these STAs, each of the applicants reference an attachment titled "ELSA-d CONOPS and Debris Mitigation Overview" (ELSA-d Attachment), with information provided to the United Kingdom

[1] 47 CFR § 25.114(d)(14)(v).

(U.K.) Space Agency regarding the ELSA-d mission, including orbital debris mitigation information.[2] The ELSA-d Attachment states that the ELSA-d mission will be subject to a mission license to be obtained from the U.K. Space Agency, that considers orbital debris mitigation planning and execution.[3] Please provide any update on the status of the U.K. Space Agency's review of the mission.

The ELSA-d Attachment describes rendezvous and proximity operations that will be performed by the ELSA-d mission.[4] To aid in the Commission's evaluation of these applications, we ask that the applicants provide any publicly-available information discussing the standards or criteria that will be applied by the United Kingdom to assess the debris mitigation plans of the ELSA-d mission, with a particular focus on the planned proximity and rendezvous operations.

To facilitate the Commission's timely evaluation of these applications, we ask that the applicants provide the requested information in the files for each earth station application, as appropriate, no later than **October 30, 2020**.

Sincerely,

Karl A. Kensinger

Karl A. Kensinger
Acting Chief, Satellite Division
International Bureau

CC:
Luc Riesbeck
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[2] *See* Denali 20020, LLC, Application for Special Temporary Authority, SES-STA-20200113-00043, Annex A (filed January 13, 2020); ViaSat, Inc., Application for Special Temporary Authority, SES-STA-20200117-00055, Attachment 1 (filed January 17, 2020) (incorporating by reference the information in the Denali 20020, LLC application regarding the ELSA-d mission); University of Miami – CSTARS, Application for Special Temporary Authority, SES-STA-20200811-00859, Annex A- Debris Mitigation (filed August 12, 2020) (available under "other filings" in IBFS).

[3] ELSA-d Attachment at 1. *See also* Denali 20020, LLC, Application for Special Temporary Authority, SES-STA-20200113-00043, Narrative at 20; University of Miami-CSTARs, Application for Special Temporary Authority, SES-STA-20200811-00859, Narrative at 20.

[4] *Id.* at 2-4.