

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Global Eagle Telecom Licensing Subsidiary, LLC, Debtor-in-Possession (“Global Eagle”), pursuant to Section 25.120(b) of the FCC’s Rules, hereby requests Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) for a period of sixty (60) days to operate its licensed Ku-band network of Earth Stations Aboard Aircraft (“ESAA”) (Call Sign E080100) using space segment capacity on each of two additional satellites -- the Telesat Anik F-1R satellite (“Anik F-1R”) at 107.3° W.L. and the Hispasat 143 W-1 satellite (“H143W”), operated by Intelsat, at 143° W.L. Global Eagle filed on January 27, 2021 an application to modify its license on a permanent basis to specify long-term operation using additional points of communication, including both Anik F-1R and H143W. Both of these satellites are currently included on the FCC’s Permitted List of non-U.S. satellites authorized to operate in the U.S. market. *See* FCC File Nos. SAT-PPL-20050504-00094 (Anik F-1R) and SAT-PDR-20191205-00143 (H143W).

Global Eagle’s operations employing capacity on the Anik F-1R and H143W satellites will not cause harmful interference to any adjacent satellites operating in accordance with FCC’s two-degree spacing policy. Global Eagle has included as annexes to its modification application coordination certification letters from both Telesat and Intelsat, pursuant to Sections 25.228(a) and 25.220(d) of the Commission’s Rules, covering the proposed operations at the two orbital locations. The proposed operations will also comply with Global Eagle’s existing, long-term coordination agreements (signed by its affiliate and predecessor licensee, Row 44, Inc.) with the National Science Foundation and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Under Section 25.120(b)(1) of the FCC’s Rules, the International Bureau may grant an STA when the public interest supports the relief requested, and/or delay in the institution of temporary operations would be contrary to the public interest. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 25.120(b)(1). Such authority may be granted for a period not to exceed 60 days where the applicant has filed a request for permanent authority for the parameters and facilities requested. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 25.120(b)(3). This is the case here, where Global Eagle has already filed an application to modify its license permanently to permit access to Anik F-1R and H143W satellites.

Grant of the authority requested here will continue to promote the public interest by permitting Global Eagle to provide continuing and enhanced service to its customers using capacity on the Anik F-1R and H143W satellites. Capacity on Anik F-1R is urgently required to provide sufficient coverage for service on Southwest Airlines domestic flight routes throughout the continental United States. Additionally, capacity on the H143W satellite is required to serve routes in the Western United States, as well as the Pacific Ocean region on domestic U.S. flights serving Hawaii, in particular. Grant of the requested STA is consistent with Commission policy and will not adversely affect other authorized operations.

Global Eagle acknowledges that any action taken pursuant to a grant of the requested STA will be at its own risk, and respectfully requests that the FCC grant it authority commencing on or about February 10, 2021, for a period of sixty (60) days, to use both the Anik F-1R satellite and the H143W as additional points of communication in the Ku-band using the two types of TECOM antennas now operating under its FCC ESAA network license. Of the two requests submitted herein, the need for capacity on the Anik F-1R satellite is the more urgent and Global Eagle would accept a partial grant of that authority to the extent the it can be granted in advance of authorization to use the H143W satellite. In this regard, the Anik F-1R modification and STA request involves use of only the conventional Ku-band frequencies at 14.0-14.5 GHz (Earth-to-space) and 11.7-12.2 GHz (space-to-Earth).