

Public Interest Statement

BlackSky Global LLC (“BlackSky”) is currently authorized to operate the referenced Brewster, Washington earth station facility to provide: (i) launch and early operations services for its Global 7 and Global 8 satellites; and (ii) for operations support for its Global non-geostationary orbit (“NGSO”) satellite network (each under S3032) pursuant to the Commission’s grant of Special Temporary Authority (“STA”).¹ The STA grants authority to operate the earth station on an interim basis in accordance with the technical specifications in BlackSky’s pending application for permanent license authority for the station (the “Earth Station Application”),² as limited by the conditions that are stated in the STA.

BlackSky’s current STA is scheduled to expire on April 11, 2021. It is unclear whether BlackSky’s pending Earth Station Application will be granted prior to the period covered by BlackSky’s the STA. Accordingly, BlackSky hereby requests an extension of its STA through the earlier of: (1) grant of its earth station application; and (2) 60 days from April 11, 2021.

BlackSky notes the following developments since the grant of its original special temporary authority for Brewster facility, all of which support its extension. Since the launch of Global 7 and Global 8, the Brewster earth station has proved essential for the launch and early operations phase of those satellites, which continues as the satellites are still in their orbit-raising phase, and is now being used to support the early operations phase of BlackSky’s recently launched Global 9. The Brewster earth station has, moreover, been integrated into providing support for the ongoing operation of BlackSky’s Global NGSO satellite network. Looking ahead, BlackSky notes that the Brewster earth station will also be needed, including for launch and early operations, to support additional satellites for which BlackSky is authorized as part of its constellation and planned to be launched later this year.

¹ See Grant, BlackSky Global LLC, IBFS File No. SES-STA-20210112-00043, Callsign E202003; see also *Public Notice*: Report No. SES-02340, Satellite Communications Services Information: Actions Taken pp 56-57 (rel. Feb 24, 2021).

² BlackSky Global LLC, *Application for a Transmit-Receive Earth Station in Brewster, WA*, IBFS File No. SES-LIC-20200513-00530.

Second, the Earth Station Application was placed on Public Notice on June 17, 2020.³ The comment period has long since passed without objections or other comments being filed with respect to the Application.

Third, coordination of BlackSky's operation of the Brewster earth station with NASA is long since complete.

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

³ *Public Notice*: Report No. SES-02276, Satellite Communications Services Information, Satellite Radio Applications Accepted for Filing, BlackSky Global LLC, SES-LIC-20200513-00530, E202003 (rel. Jun 17, 2020).