

REQUEST FOR SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

SpaceX Services, Inc. (“SpaceX Services”), pursuant to Section 25.120 of the Commission’s rules, hereby requests Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) to allow communications for a period of 30 days between its authorized fixed user terminal (“UT”) earth stations (call signs E210127 and E220009) and satellites operated by its sister company, Space Exploration Holdings, LLC (“SpaceX”). SpaceX has been authorized to launch and operate an NGSO satellite constellation (call sign S2983/S3018) using Ku- and Ka-band spectrum.¹ SpaceX Services has received blanket authority to deploy its UTs throughout the continental United States, Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.²

This application requests carefully limited, temporary authority solely to authorize communications between SpaceX satellites and user terminals at elevation angles no less than 10 degrees in polar regions—i.e., at latitudes above 53 degrees. This application does not seek authority to deploy any additional satellites or earth stations. It also does not seek any change in the technical or operating characteristics of the SpaceX satellites and SpaceX Services earth stations the Commission has already authorized, except for this narrow change to the minimum elevation angle observed in polar regions. This stop-gap operation will enable SpaceX to speed deployment of its high-speed, low-latency service to the polar regions of the United States in the interim period before SpaceX’s system is sufficiently deployed to provide polar service at its already authorized 25-degree minimum elevation angle. Consistent with its existing authorizations, SpaceX Services will operate these UTs in the 10.7-12.7 GHz (space-to-Earth) and 14.0-14.5 GHz (Earth-to-space) frequency bands.

The Commission has good cause to approve this request quickly. SpaceX Services has been operating its first-generation UTs for months at reduced elevation angles under an STA without incident.³ Granting this STA would serve the public interest by enabling SpaceX Services to expand the equipment options available for deployment of high-speed, low-latency service in polar regions of the United States in the period before SpaceX’s system is sufficiently deployed to provide service at its already-authorized 25-degree minimum elevation angle. This will speed the deployment of next-generation satellite service to some of the most underserved areas of the country, driving high-speed, low-latency broadband connectivity that will help consumers connect to work, school, healthcare, and government services.

SpaceX Services will operate on a non-interference basis. Consistent with SpaceX’s space station authorization, SpaceX Services will observe the applicable equivalent power flux-density (“EPFD”) limits set forth in Article 22 and Resolution 76 of the ITU Radio Regulations and the applicable power flux-density (“PFD”) limits set forth in the Commission’s rules and Article 21 of the ITU Radio Regulations, which the Commission has found sufficient to protect GSO systems and terrestrial systems, respectively, against harmful interference. Nonetheless, in the extremely

¹ See *Space Exploration Holdings, LLC*, 36 FCC Rcd. 7995 (2021).

² See Radio Station Authorization, IBFS File No. SES-LIC-20210708-01019, Call Sign E210127 (granted Nov. 10, 2021); Radio Station Authorization, IBFS File No. SES-LIC-20220125-00081, Call Sign E220009 (granted May 16, 2022).

³ See IBFS File No. SES-STA-20220516-00573; Public Notice, Rep. No. SES-02490 (IB, rel. Aug 10, 2022).

unlikely event that harmful interference should occur due to transmissions to or from its UTs, SpaceX Services will take all reasonable steps to eliminate the interference. Should an issue arise, SpaceX Services can be reached at satellite-operators-pager@spacex.com, which links to the pagers of appropriate technical personnel 24/7.

For the foregoing reasons, the Commission should find that the authorization of these operations in polar regions would serve the public interest and grant an STA for a period of 30 days.