

Request for Special Temporary Authority SAN Earth Stations (Site-Based Authority)

The Commission has authorized Viasat to serve the United States market with the ViaSat-3 satellite, which will operate at 88.9° W.L. in the Ka band under Call Signs S2917 and S3050.¹ This authorization was based on the Commission’s determination that allowing ViaSat-3 to communicate with users in the United States would serve the public interest.

Consistent with that authorization and underlying public interest finding, Viasat has filed an application for authority to operate an earth station at the site identified in the attached form. That application remains pending and might not be granted prior to the anticipated launch of ViaSat-3 in mid-April 2023. Accordingly, Viasat requests special temporary authority (“STA”), for sixty (60) days commencing on April 24, 2023, to operate this earth station pending resolution of the associated application.²

Grant of the requested STA will facilitate Viasat’s ability to operate the ViaSat-3 network and provide related services to consumers in the United States—activities that the Commission has already found to be in the public interest. Absent STA at the location and frequency band segments specified in this request, Viasat would be unable to operate the ViaSat-3 network as configured and as described in the ViaSat-3 space station applications, resulting in degradation in the quality or scope of services and inhibiting Viasat’s ability to serve users at certain geographic locations. The requested STA will also allow Viasat to perform in-orbit testing (“IOT”) in a timely manner.

When communicating with ViaSat-3 under the STA, the operation of the earth station (including during IOT) will be consistent with the technical parameters and conditions set forth in Viasat’s existing authorizations for the ViaSat-3 satellite, and as specified in Viasat’s pending earth station application.³ Furthermore, operations under the STA will be consistent with

¹ See Call Sign S2917, IBFS File Nos. SAT-MOD-20190617-00047 (granted May 28, 2020), SAT-MOD-20210825-00110 (granted Dec. 23, 2021), and SAT-MOD-20220819-00091 (granted Oct. 31, 2022); Call Sign S3050, IBFS File No. SAT-LOA-20190617-00048 (granted May 27, 2020).

² See 47 C.F.R. § 25.120.

³ This STA request covers only those band segments covered by Viasat’s pending application for site-based authority. The earth station will also operate in other band segments (namely the 18.3-19.3 GHz, 19.7-20.2 GHz, 28.35-29.1 GHz, and 29.5-30.0 GHz band segments). Viasat has a pending application for blanket authority to operate in those other band segments, see IBFS File No. SES-LIC-20200811-00852. The earth station will also operate for IOT purposes only in the 19.3-19.7 GHz and 29.1-29.5 GHz band segments. Viasat is submitting a separate request for STA that will cover those other band segments.

technical parameters coordinated prior to the submission of the pending earth station application.⁴

Viasat will operate pursuant to the STA on a non-protected, non-harmful interference basis. In the unlikely event of harmful interference caused by Viasat's operations under the STA, Viasat will take steps to eliminate such interference, including termination of transmissions if needed. The U.S. point of contact available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with authority and ability to cease emissions is:

349 Inverness Drive South
Englewood, CO 80112
Tel: 720-493-7300

⁴ Coordination reports are attached as Exhibit C to Viasat's earth station applications. In some cases, a supplemental coordination report was subsequently filed through IBFS.