

Request for Special Temporary Authority
Call Sign E170088

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 to modify the above-referenced blanket earth station license to add ViaSat-3 as a point of communication.² 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 allow earth stations covered by the above-referenced blanket license to communicate with ViaSat-3 pending resolution of Viasat’s pending modification application.³

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. 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, Viasat will operate in a manner consistent with the technical parameters and conditions set forth in its existing authorizations for the ViaSat-3 satellite. Other than the addition of ViaSat-3 as a point of communication, all operations of earth stations under the requested STA will be consistent with the existing terms of the E170088 license—including operations during IOT.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

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 Call Sign E170088, IBFS File No. SES-MFS-20221103-01173.

³ See 47 C.F.R. § 25.120.

⁴ See Call Sign E170088, IBFS File No. SES-LIC-20170401-00357 (granted Nov. 9, 2017).