

Description of Operations and Public Interest Statement

Pursuant to 47 CFR 25.120 of the Commission's Rules, Lockheed Martin Corporation ("Lockheed Martin") hereby requests Special Temporary Authority ("STA") for a period of thirty (30) days to operate its Carpentersville, New Jersey fixed earth station (Call Sign E7541) to provide telemetry, tracking, and control ("TT&C") functions during the Launch and Early Orbit Phase ("LEOP") operation for the Viasat-3 F3 satellite.

Viasat-3 F3 is destined to provide service to the Asia-Pacific region, with launch in April 2026 aboard a Falcon Heavy rocket from Launch Complex 39A (LC-39A) at Kennedy Space Center, Florida. It is the third in the Viasat-3 constellation, utilizing a Ka-band, high-capacity platform to cover this region.

Given an accelerated launch timeline, Lockheed Martin hereby requests authority to begin communications on April 15, 2026, in preparation for the start of LEOP.¹ Lockheed Martin also notes that its Carpentersville station is already authorized for the transmit frequencies required to support this mission; it is only seeking STA because Viasat-3 F3 is licensed by the administration of the United Kingdom and has not been added to the FCC's Permitted List.

1. Requested STA Operations

The LEOP telecommand and ranging signals will be transmitted to Viasat-3 F3 as a point of communication in the standard Ku-band for which Lockheed Martin already has authority under Call Sign E7541. Lockheed Martin notes that the planned telemetry downlink channels fall outside of the standard 11700-12200 MHz band, but it is not seeking any protection herein for those receive operations. In all other respects, operation of the earth station will be consistent with the parameters set forth under the existing permanent authority.

The entire LEOP mission of Viasat-3 F3 is expected to require extended support for completion. Accordingly, Lockheed Martin is requesting herein STA for a total of thirty (30) days. Further, a request for extension of the instant STA request for up to an additional one hundred eighty (180) days will be filed shortly to cover the entire period required to complete LEOP and the in-orbit testing.

¹ The proposed test transmissions would occur over a period of approximately two to three days. During these tests, the earth station would not be communicating with any satellite; instead, the transmissions will be made with the antenna at zenith to verify RF functionality.

Lockheed Martin designates Michael Usarzewicz to be the contact person that will be available whenever transmission to Viasat-3 F3 is to occur through the subject earth station. Mr. Usarzewicz can be reached at the following phone numbers:

(609) 865-2658 (cellular)
(908) 859-4050 (earth station desk)

2. Grant of the Requested Authority Will Serve the Public Interest

Lockheed Martin believes that the limited operations it proposes in support of the launch of the Viasat-3 F3 satellite serve the public interest. Lockheed Martin understands that the Viasat-3 F3 satellite will provide high-capacity Ka-band broadband of over 1 terabit per second throughput to the Asia-Pacific region, offering high-speed internet to businesses, governments, commercial airlines, and residential customers.

Lockheed Martin's Carpentersville earth station will be part of a global network of control and ranging facilities that will be used solely to position the satellite as it progresses from transfer orbit to its final location and to calibrate propulsion maneuvers. No end user service will be provided within the United States at any time.

The safe and orderly use of the entire geostationary orbital resource and protection of the hundreds of satellites licensed by the U.S. and other countries that operate there depends in no small part on ensuring that the Viasat-3 F3 satellite is controlled while over North America en route to its final geostationary orbital position. In this regard, Lockheed Martin's earth station thus will serve a vital function.

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Lockheed Martin requests authority to operate its Carpentersville, NJ earth station antenna to provide critical TT&C and ranging services during the LEOP mission of the Viasat-3 F3 satellite, for a term of 30 days, commencing April 15, 2026.

TECHNICAL DETAILS OF SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

Satellite Characteristics

Satellite: Viasat-3 F3
Orbital Location: 158.55° E.L. (up to 3 months)
Manufacturer: Boeing
Launch Vehicle: Falcon Heavy

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Earth Station Characteristics

Antenna: 14.2-m TIW Systems
Antenna Location: 40°38' 39.1" N / 075° 11' 27.8" W

Telecommand Uplink Frequencies (already authorized under Call Sign E7541):

14004.5 MHz (LHCP/RHCP)
14496.0 MHz (LHCP/RHCP)
14499.0 MHz (LHCP/RHCP)

Telemetry Downlink Frequencies:

11197.0 MHz (LHCP/RHCP)
11198.5 MHz (LHCP/RHCP)
11451.0 MHz (LHCP/RHCP)
11453.0 MHz (LHCP/RHCP)

Antenna Gain: 63.5 dBi @ 14 GHz
Antenna Power: 19.1 dBW (into the flange)
Maximum EIRP: 83.0 dBW for all carriers
EIRP Density: 23.0 dBW/4kHz
Uplink Emission: 1M00F2D
Downlink Emission: 350KG2D