

October 10, 2018

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Request for Extension of Special Temporary Authority
Hagerstown, Maryland Earth Station E140121

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) herein requests an additional 30 days of Special Temporary Authority (“STA”),¹ previously granted Intelsat to use its Hagerstown, Maryland Ku-band earth station—call sign E140121—to provide launch and early orbit phase (“LEOP”) services² for the SES-12 satellite. SES-12 was launched on June 4, 2018.³ Intelsat expects the LEOP period to last approximately 180 days.⁴

The SES-12 LEOP operations will continue to be performed at the following frequencies: 13998.0 MHz, 13996.5 MHz, 13999.5 MHz, 14494.5 MHz, 14496.0 MHz, 14497.5 MHz, and 14499.0 MHz (CP) in the uplink; and 11499.5 MHz and 11703.5 MHz (CP) in the downlink. The LEOP operations will continue to be coordinated with all operators of satellites that use the same frequency bands and are in the LEOP path.⁵ All operators of satellites in that path will be provided with an emergency phone number where the licensee can be reached in the event that harmful interference occurs.

The 24x7 contact information for the SES-12 LEOP mission is as follows:

Ph.: (703) 559-7701 – East Coast Operations Center (primary)
(310) 525-5591 – West Coast Operations Center (back-up)

¹ Intelsat has filed its STA request, FCC Form 159, a \$200.00 filing fee, and this supporting letter electronically via the International Bureau’s Filing System (“IBFS”).

² See *Satellite Communications Services Information; Actions Taken*, Report No. SES-02049, File No. SES-STA-20180207-00097 (Apr. 4, 2018) (Public Notice).

³ The in-orbit testing location for SES-12, which Intelsat understands is licensed by the Netherlands, will be 81.5° E.L. The final location of SES-12 will be 95.0° E.L.

⁴ Intelsat is seeking authority for an additional 30 days to accommodate the longer orbit-raising time period required for an electric propulsion satellite.

⁵ Airbus, the manager of the SES-12 LEOP mission, will handle the coordination.

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Request to speak with Harry Burnham or Kevin Bell.

In further support of this request, Intelsat incorporates by reference Exhibits A and B, submitted with its original STA request,⁶ which contain a coordination report and waiver requests. In the extremely unlikely event that harmful interference should occur due to transmissions to or from its earth station, Intelsat will take all reasonable steps to eliminate the interference.

Finally, Intelsat clarifies that during the SES-12 LEOP mission, Airbus will serve as the mission manager. Airbus will build and send the commands to the Intelsat antenna, which will process and execute the commands. Telemetry received by Intelsat will be forwarded to Airbus. Intelsat will continue to perform the ranging sessions by sending a tone to the spacecraft periodically. Intelsat will remain in control of the baseband unit, RF equipment, and antenna.

Grant of this STA extension request will allow Intelsat to continue helping with the launch of the SES-12 satellite. This, in turn, will help provide additional capacity from the 95.0 E.L. orbital location and thereby promotes the public interest.

Please direct any questions regarding this STA extension request to the undersigned at (703) 559-6949.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Cynthia J. Grady

Cynthia J. Grady
Regulatory Counsel
Intelsat US LLC

cc: Paul Blais

⁶ *See supra* n. 2.