



May 12, 2021

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority
Fillmore, California Earth Station E4132

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC, as debtor in possession (“Intelsat”), herein requests a grant of Special Temporary Authority (“STA”)¹ for 30 days, commencing June 1, 2021, to use its Fillmore, California C-band earth station, call sign E4132, to provide launch and early orbit phase (“LEOP”) services for the SXM-8 satellite (S3034).² SXM-8 is expected to launch on June 1, 2021 and the LEOP period is expected to last approximately 30 days.

The SXM-8 LEOP operations will be performed at the following frequencies: 6422.5 MHz and 6424.5 MHz in the uplink; and 4196.5 MHz and 4198.0 MHz in the downlink. The LEOP operations will be coordinated with all operators of satellites that use the same frequency bands and are in the LEOP path.³ 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 SXM-8 LEOP mission is as follows:

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

Request to speak with Harry Burnham or Kevin Bell.

¹ Intelsat has filed its STA request, FCC Form 159, a \$210.00 filing fee, and this supporting letter electronically via the International Bureau’s Filing System.

² See *Satellite Policy Branch Information; Actions Taken*, Report No. SAT-01350, File No. SAT-RPL-20180430-00034 (Oct. 5, 2018) (Public Notice); see also *Sirius XM Radio Inc., Request for Special Temporary Authority*, File No. SAT-STA-20210419-00052 (filed Apr. 19, 2021) (requesting, among other things, authority to in-orbit test SXM-8 at 120.5° W.L. and drift the satellite to 85.15° W.L.).

³ Maxar Technologies (“Maxar”), the manager of the SXM-8 mission, will handle the coordination.

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In further support of this request, Intelsat herewith attaches Exhibit A, which contains a coordination report. 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 SXM-8 LEOP mission, Maxar will serve as the mission manager. Maxar 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 Maxar. Intelsat will 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 request will allow Intelsat to help launch the SXM-8 satellite, which in turn will help to ensure continuity of service from the 85.15° W.L. orbital location. Grant of this request will thereby promote the public interest.

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

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Cynthia J. Grady
Cynthia J. Grady
Assistant General Counsel
Intelsat US LLC

cc: Paul Blais