



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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Washington, DC 20554

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**WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU SEEKS SUPPLEMENTAL COMMENT ON
VTel'S PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THE EXTENSION OF CONSTRUCTION
DEADLINES FOR CERTAIN LICENSES HELD BY ECHOSTAR CORPORATION**

WT Docket No. 22-212

Comment Date: May 27, 2025

Reply Comment Date: June 6, 2025

By this Public Notice, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureau) seeks additional comment on a petition for reconsideration filed by VTel Wireless, Inc. (VTel) of the Bureau's grant of a request by EchoStar Corporation (EchoStar) for an extension of the construction deadlines for certain EchoStar licenses.

On September 17, 2024, EchoStar submitted a request that the Commission extend the construction milestones associated with certain of its AWS-4, Lower 700 MHz E Block, 600 MHz, AWS-3, and AWS H Block licenses contingent upon the terms of commitments set forth in the request.¹ On September 20, 2024, the Bureau granted EchoStar's request by action in the Commission's Universal Licensing System, with a notation on the licenses subject to the extension that the grant is "contingent on the applicant meeting in full the commitments that it made in Exhibit 1 (dated 9/17/24) that was filed with this application."² On October 21, 2024, VTel filed a petition for reconsideration (Petition) of the Bureau's grant of the extension to EchoStar.³ EchoStar filed an Opposition to VTel's Petition on October 31, 2024,⁴ and VTel filed a Reply on November 7, 2024.⁵ Other parties raised concerns related to the affected licenses⁶ or expressed support for grant of the extension.⁷

¹ See, e.g., ULS File Nos. 0011245488, 0011245357, 0011245624, 0011245219, 0011244682, and 0011244484 (filed September 17, 2024) (collectively Extension Applications); see also Letter from Jeffrey H. Blum, Executive Vice President, External & Legislative Affairs, EchoStar Corporation, to Joel Taubenblatt, Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Sept. 18, 2024).

² See Extension Applications.

³ Petition for Reconsideration of VTel Wireless, Inc., WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Oct. 21, 2024).

⁴ Opposition of EchoStar Corporation, WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Oct. 31, 2024).

⁵ Reply of VTel Wireless, Inc., WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Nov. 7, 2024).

⁶ Letter from Jameson Dempsey, Director, Satellite Policy, Space Exploration Technologies Corp., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Mar. 20, 2025); Letter from David Goldman, Vice President of Satellite Policy, Space Exploration Technologies Corp., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Apr. 14, 2025); Letter from David Goldman, Vice President of Satellite Policy, Space Exploration Technologies Corp., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Apr. 18, 2025); Letter from David Goldman, Vice President of Satellite Policy, Space Exploration Technologies Corp., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed May 6, 2025). EchoStar responded to these filings. Letter from Pantelis Michalopoulos, Counsel for EchoStar Corporation, to Marlene H. Dortch, (continued....)

Given the importance of robust and efficient use of spectrum as a national resource, as well as the divergent views expressed on the record of this proceeding to date, the Bureau seeks to develop a more fulsome record on whether it should reconsider its decision to grant an extension of the construction deadlines for certain licenses held by EchoStar, or whether there are other measures or actions that it should consider taking with respect to EchoStar's licenses.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Comments and Reply Comments. Interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document. Comments may be filed using: (1) the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS); or (2) by filing paper copies. All filings should reference only the docket number of this proceeding, **WT Docket No. 22-212**.

- *Electronic Filers:* Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs>.
- *Paper Filers:* Parties filing by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.
 - Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial courier, or by the U.S. Postal Service. **All filings must be addressed to the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.**
 - Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary are accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by the FCC's mailing contractor at 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
 - Commercial courier deliveries (any deliveries not by the U.S. Postal Service) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
 - Filings sent by U.S. Postal Service First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Priority Mail Express must be sent to 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530.

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Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Apr. 15, 2025); Letter from Jeffrey H. Blum, Executive Vice President, External & Legislative Affairs, EchoStar Corporation, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Apr. 17, 2025); Letter from Jeffrey H. Blum, Executive Vice President, External & Legislative Affairs, EchoStar Corporation, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Apr. 23, 2025); *see also* Letter from Keith J. Leitch, President and Engineer, One Ministries, Inc. (KQSL), to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (Sept. 25, 2024); Letter from Keith J. Leitch, President and Engineer, One Ministries, Inc. (KQSL), to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (May 6, 2025).

⁷ Letter from Angie Kronenberg, President, INCOMPAS, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Oct. 31, 2024); Letter from Michael Calabrese, Director, Wireless Future Project, Open Technology Institute at New America, and Harold Feld, Executive Vice President, Public Knowledge, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 22-212 (filed Nov. 7, 2024); *see also* Letter from Michael Calabrese, Director, Wireless Future Project, Open Technology Institute at New America, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, ET Docket No. 18-295, WT Docket Nos. 20-443, 24-186, 22-212 (filed Jan. 21, 2025).

Ex Parte Rules. This proceeding shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.⁸ Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b).⁹ In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must, when feasible, be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (e.g., .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf).¹⁰ Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.¹¹

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⁸ See 47 CFR § 1.1206(b); see also 47 CFR § 1.1200(a) (“Where the public interest so requires in a particular proceeding, the Commission and its staff retain the discretion to modify the applicable *ex parte* rules by . . . public notice.”); Note 2 to 47 CFR § 1.1208 (“Consistent with § 1.1200(a), the Commission or its staff may determine that a restricted proceeding involves primarily issues of broadly applicable policy rather than the rights and responsibilities of specific parties and specify that the proceeding will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of § 1.1206 governing permit-but-disclose proceedings.”).

⁹ *Id.* § 1.1206(b).

¹⁰ *Id.* §§ 1.49(f), 1.1206(b)(2)(i).

¹¹ See *id.* §§ 1.1200-1216.