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JUL - 2 2012

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

July 2, 2012

Via HAND DELIVERY to Columbia Operations Center and FCC

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

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Re: Annual Satellite Report of EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation for Fixed-Satellite Service Authorizations and Construction of a DBS Satellite at 86.5° W.L. (S2454)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation ("ESOC"), I am enclosing the company's annual satellite reports for its Fixed-Satellite Service ("FSS") authorizations and its progress in building out its authority to launch and operate a Direct Broadcast Satellite ("DBS") at the 86.5° W.L. orbital location. Please call me if you have any questions regarding this submission.

Sincerely,

Pantelis Michalopoulos
Counsel for EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation

cc: FCC Columbia Operations Center
Mindel De La Torre (via e-mail)
Robert Nelson (via e-mail)

ANNUAL REPORT OF ECHOSTAR SATELLITE OPERATING CORPORATION

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 25.210(l) and EchoStar Satellite L.L.C., *Order and Authorization*, 21 FCC Rcd. 14045 ¶ 31 (2006), EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation ("ESOC") files this annual report covering its Fixed-Satellite Service ("FSS") satellite and its progress towards launching a Direct Broadcast Satellite ("DBS") at the 86.5° W.L. orbital location.

I. FSS Satellite Report

ESOC is presently licensed to operate, and is operating, the EchoStar IX satellite at the 121° W.L. orbital location. The EchoStar IX satellite is a hybrid Ku- and Ka-band satellite. Specifically, the satellite has 32 Ku-band transponders operating at approximately 110 watts per channel. ESOC leases the majority of its Ku-band capacity to third parties. Specifically, as of May 31, 2012, about 20 of the Ku-band transponders were leased to third parties (a number that has fluctuated during the year). Additionally, EchoStar IX provides expanded video and audio channels to subscribers of EchoStar's affiliate, DISH Network Corporation, which installs a specially designed dish. The satellite also has two Ka-band transponders operating at approximately 120 watts per channel. The Ka-band spectrum continues to be used to test and verify potential future initiatives. ESOC is making the spectrum available for commercial use and has had discussions with a number of third parties regarding such use. There have been no transponder outages, failures, or anomalies on EchoStar IX.

II. 86.5° W.L. DBS Report

ESOC is also providing an annual progress report for its DBS authorization at the 86.5° W.L. orbital location (S2454) pursuant to a condition in that authorization.[1] In a July 23, 2011 order, the International Bureau determined that EchoStar had failed to meet the critical design review milestone for its authorization at 86.5° W.L. and rejected EchoStar's request to modify its authorization to allow the in-orbit EchoStar 8 satellite to provide service from that orbital location. EchoStar filed a petition for reconsideration of that decision with the International Bureau on August 25, 2011. That petition remains pending.

July 2, 2012

[1] *See* EchoStar Satellite L.L.C., *Order and Authorization*, 21 FCC Rcd. 14045 ¶ 31 (2006).