

March 1, 2017

*Via Electronic Filing*

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

Re: *Notice of Ex Parte Communication, ET Docket No. 13-115, RM-11341, and IBFS File No. SAT-LOA-20161115-00118*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to inform you that, on February 28, 2017, representatives of Space Exploration Technologies Corp. ("SpaceX") met with Commission staff from the Office of the Chairman with respect to the above referenced proceeding. Present at the meeting for the Commission were Rachael Bender; present on behalf of SpaceX were Tim Hughes and Patricia Cooper.

During the meeting, SpaceX highlighted its ongoing launch services business and its ongoing support of the letter recently filed in this proceeding by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration ("NTIA") endorsing the concept of allocating spectrum resources for commercial space launch operations.<sup>1</sup> Such an allocation would be a significant step toward streamlining launch spectrum licensing in the future, which will become even more important as the cadence of commercial launch and recovery activities increases over the next few years. Although the proposed allocations do not completely cover the spectrum used by SpaceX launch vehicles, the remainder can be handled through special temporary authorizations for the time being. SpaceX expressed its hope that this proceeding could be resolved in the near future to implement the allocations proposed by NTIA, and that in the longer term all spectrum needed for commercial launch activities could be allocated for that use.

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<sup>1</sup> See Letter from Lawrence E. Strickling to The Hon. Tom Wheeler, ET Docket No. 13-115 and RM-11341 (Sep. 30, 2016).

SpaceX also discussed its application for operating authority for a non-geostationary orbit (“NGSO”) satellite system in the Fixed-Satellite Service (“FSS”) bands of Ku- and Ka-band for purposes of providing high-speed, reliable and affordable broadband service to consumers in the U.S. and around the world.<sup>2</sup>

Sincerely yours,



Patricia Cooper  
Vice President of Satellite Government Affairs

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cc: Rachael Bender

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<sup>2</sup> See IBFS File No. SAT-LOA-20161115-00118.