

PUBLIC INTEREST STATEMENT

1. **Introduction**

By the instant request (“STA Request”), General Dynamics Armament and Technical Products, Inc. (“GDATP”) requests that the Commission grant to GDATP Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) to operate the facilities (the “Facilities”) specified in the instant STA Request. A Start Date of December 1, 2008 is respectfully requested.

2. **Purpose and Nature of the Operation**

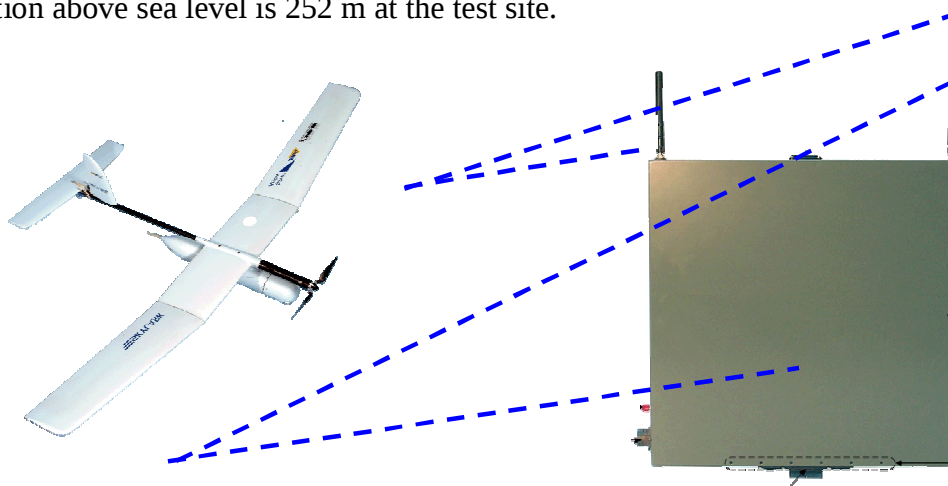
The testing specified in this STA Request will be conducted by General Dynamics Armament and Technical Products (GDATP), a business unit of General Dynamics. The purpose of this experiment is to assist in the continued development of next generation unmanned aerial surveillance technologies. Transmissions will originate from the ground and the air, as follows:

Ground-Based Transmissions (UHF and C-Band):

Originating from a laptop/consul/tripod configuration, located at temporary-fixed locations within a 1 km radius around the centerpoint coordinates of: 44-28-42 N.Lat.; 072-56-57 W.Long. (NAD 83) (“Centerpoint Coordinates”) (Centerpoint Coordinates located at Ethan Allen Firing Range in Jericho, VT)

Airborne Transmissions (C-Band Only):

Mobile airborne transmissions originating from an unmanned aerial surveillance aircraft, within a 7 km radius around the Centerpoint Coordinates. Maximum flight planned is 1219.2 m above ground level. The firing range air space is controlled by Burlington International airport, which - line of site - is 15.7 km away from the firing range. Ground elevation above sea level is 252 m at the test site.



Recent successful testing of GDATP's Skylark I system at this location in the 2.3 GHz range has resulted in the initiation of this new development effort with a larger, more capable UAV, the Skylark II and Skylark II LE. The goal of this testing is to provide persistent, responsive battlefield surveillance at small unit echelons, and thereby provide warfighters the timely information they need to mitigate battlefield threats and reduce American casualties. Such goal

is responsive to Defense Secretary Gates' recent comments seeking more rapid deployment of such surveillance technologies.¹ GDATP anticipates submission of a proposal in response to a Naval Air Systems Command Small Tactical UAS Tier II RFP in or around late November, early December, 2008. In order to be in a position to demonstrate technical readiness in such RFP, it is necessary that GDATP confirm the technological feasibility of this system. Given the limited RFP timeframe, the instant request for a 6 month STA is appropriate under Commission rules and policies.

3. Stop Buzzer – GDATP hereby advises that Mr. Richard Scheps will be available by wireless telephone at (802) 318-6561 and will act as a “stop buzzer” if any issues regarding interference arise during testing

4. Directionality of Antennas

The Antenna Registration for the ground-based transmissions specifies “Yes” in response to the question: “Is a directional antenna used?”. This is to clarify that for such ground-based transmissions, one of 4 different antennas may be used. Of those four potential antennas, two of the C-Band antennas are directional. Such directional antennas are characterized by the following:

Antenna	Gain (Nominal)	Width of Beam in Degrees at half- power point	Orientation in Vertical Plane	Orientation in Horizontal Plane
C-Band Tadiran Spectralink P/N 21770908700	28 dBi	5° in Horizontal Plane 5° in Vertical Plane	-20° to +60°	0° to 359°
C-Band Tadiran Spectralink P/N 21770908800	13 dBi	30° in Horizontal Plane 30° in Vertical Plane	-20° to +60°	0° to 359°

For the foregoing reasons, GDATP respectfully submits that approval of this STA Request is in the public interest, convenience and necessity.

¹ Defense News, Published April 21, 2008 (<http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3490138>).