

Renewal of Experimental Authority

Iridium hereby requests renewal of its experimental authority¹ to communicate with the Technical Educational Satellite-16 ("TechEdSat-16") low earth orbit nanosatellite. Iridium seeks to extend its authority for a period of two years, through July 1, 2028.²

The renewal is due to delays in the launch of the satellite. As described in Iridium's initial application,³ the satellite will be operated by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration ("NASA"), which will operate up to three Iridium NAL 9602-I modems hosted on the TechEdSat-16 smallsat in a 12U form. TechEdSat-16 will transmit to space stations in Iridium's "Big LEO" constellation and provide instrument command and control in the demonstration of a single Doppler Wind and Temperature Sounder ("DWTS"), demonstrate a de-orbit, compact exo-brake, and include advanced high powered neuromorphic processors.

There will be no change during the experiment in the operating parameters of Iridium's space stations, which are licensed as Part 25 space stations under Call Sign S2110. For this reason, no operating parameters, other than effective radiated power and emission designator, were used in the form that Iridium's initial application included. The only change for which Iridium seeks an STA is adding TechEdSat-16 as a point of communication. Iridium's Part 25 space station license does not cover space-to-space communications.

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¹ Iridium Satellite LLC, FCC Call Sign WO2XXF, OET File No. 0620-EX-CN-2024 (granted Jan. 2, 2025).

² Iridium's constellation is comprised of 66 satellites, any one of which may be used as part of the experiment at any point in time.

³ Application of Iridium Satellite LLC, OET File No. 0620-EX-CN-2024 (filed Jun. 6, 2024).