

Request for Experimental Authority

Iridium Satellite LLC (“Iridium”) seeks an experimental license to transmit in the 1618.725-1626.5 MHz band from its space stations¹ to the Train Rapid on Orbit Payload smallsat (“TROOP-F2”) operated by Near Space Launch, Inc. (“NSL”), which will be launched on a SpaceX Transporter 9 currently scheduled for an October 2023 launch.

Iridium requests that its license application be granted for a period of two years beginning on October 1, 2023. Iridium requests that the license be issued by July 1, 2023, to satisfy the requirements of the launch integrators.

As stated in NSL’s companion application for the TROOP-F2 mission,² the goal of the TROOP-F2 mission is to act as a docking target for VIGORIDE RPO Demo Mission 1 (“Vigoride”). Two Iridium transceiver modems (model 9603) will be installed on the smallsat and will communicate with the Iridium constellation. Vigoride will deploy from SpaceX Transporter 9, and the TROOP-F2 will deploy from Vigoride. Transmission from the TROOP-F2 will begin 30 minutes after it is deployed from Vigoride. TROOP-F2 will remain active for two years.

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, are used in the form that this exhibit accompanies. The only change for which Iridium seeks an authority is adding the TROOP-F2 smallsat 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’s constellation is comprised of 66 satellites, any one of which may be used as part of the experiment at any point in time.

² See Near Space Launch, Inc., Application for Authority to Launch and Operate TROOP-3, OET File No. 0309-EX-CN-2023, filed Feb. 18, 2023.