

Request for Renewal of Experimental Authority

Iridium Satellite LLC (“Iridium”) seeks to extend for 24 months its experimental license to transmit from its space stations to the Veery-RL1 low-Earth orbit 1U cubesat operated by Care Weather Technologies (“Care Weather”) in the 1618.725–1626.5 MHz band.¹ As the Veery-RL1 mission was extended, Care Weather was granted renewal of its experimental license for the cubesat.² Iridium, therefore, seeks to extend the term of its companion experimental license.

The Veery-RL1 mission performs orbital testing and validation of the custom satellite computing, power, and avionics electronics developed by Care Weather. The experimentation enables Care Weather to develop U.S. weather remote sensing capabilities that will be integrated with its satellite-based wind-sensing radar system.

The Veery-RL1 communications subsystem includes an Iridium 9603 satellite modem that is used to relay communications via the Iridium system to Care Weather mission control. As stated in Iridium’s original experimental license application, there is no change during the experiment in the operating parameters of Iridium’s space stations. For this reason, no operating parameters, other than effective radiated power and an emission designator, were shown in the application. The only change for which Iridium sought an experimental license, and now seeks an extension, is adding Veery-RL1 as a point of communication. (Iridium’s Part 25 space station license does not cover space-to-space communications.)

¹ Iridium’s constellation licensed under Callsign S2110 is comprised of 66 satellites, any one of which may be used as part of the experiment at any point in time.

² Care Weather currently operates the cubesat under Callsign WM2XBY, File No. 0663-EX-CR-2023.