Kuiper Systems LLC Application for Special Temporary Authority Narrative Statement

Pursuant to Sections 5.51, 5.54(a)(1), and 5.61 of the rules¹ of the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission"), Kuiper Systems LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Amazon.com Services LLC ("Amazon.com" or "Amazon"), hereby respectfully requests Special Temporary Authority (STA) to operate in the band 29.5-30.0 GHz for a period of 6 months to conduct in-orbit transponder measurements within the permitted scope of services specified in 5.3 (e)(h)(j)(k). In support of its request, Amazon provides the following additional information required by Section 5.61:

(1) Name, address, phone number (also email address and facsimile number, if available) of the applicant.

Amazon Stop-Buzzer Contact Amazon FCC Contact

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(2) Explanation of why an experimental license is needed.

Amazon requires authority to conduct In-Orbit Tests (IOT) of its satellite transponders on its already authorized non-geostationary prototype satellites² (the "prototype satellites"). Authorization to transmit a constant-power, variable bandwidth measurement signal or a continuous wave (CW) alignment signal from an IOT earth station located in Los Angeles, California to the prototype satellites and downlink the same signal from these proto-type satellites to the same location is necessary.

The measurements will form a vital part of Amazon's Kuiper program to develop high-speed, innovative, satellite-delivered services to unserved and underserved customers worldwide. Accordingly, grant of the requested experimental authority would serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

(3) Description of the operation to be conducted and its purpose.

Amazon proposes to transmit to, and receive a test waveform from, its prototype satellites in a transponder loopback test for the purpose of characterizing their transponders.

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 5.51, 5.54(a)(1), 5.61.

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² See ELS File No. 0108-EX-CM-2023 (granted Sept. 1, 2023) ("Prototype Satellite Grant").

(4) Station and Equipment types and Emission Characteristics

The experiment will transmit test signals from the station locations using equipment specified in Table 1 with the signal characteristics specified in Table 2.

Table 1. Stations and Equipment

	IOT Earth Station	Prototype Satellite
Station type	FIXED	MOBILE ³
Location	8500 Balboa Blvd, Northridge, Los Angeles,	Circular low-earth orbit
	California. CA 91329. Los Angeles County.	Nominal altitude:500km
	Latitude: 34° 13' 30.6" North	Orbit inclination:30°
	Longitude:118° 30' 0.5" West	
	Height above the ground 10 m.	
	Height above the building roof 3 m	
Equipment (qty) all	- Cobham 1.3 m parabolic antenna (2) OR	Amazon prototype satellite (2)
co-located	- Cobham 2.4m Tactical Tracker antenna (1)	
	- Newtec MDM 9000 Modem (2, co-located)	

Table 2. Carrier Signal (Emission) Characteristics

	IOT Earth Station	Prototype Satellite
EIRP/ERP dBW (kW)	59/56.9 (794/489)	36/33.8 (3.9/2.4)
Frequency bands (GHz)	29.5-30.0	19.7-20.2
Emission designators	50M0G7W to 500MG7W	
	50M0D7W to 500MD7W	
	1H00NON	
Modulation types	Phase modulation (QPSK/PSK)	
	Amplitude and phase modulation (APSK)	
	Continuous wave (CW)	
Frequency tolerance	<+/-10ppm	<+/-10ppm
Gain and 3 dB beam-	1.3m antenna:	35dBi @ 19.8GHz
widths (H/V)	49.7 dBi @29.5GHz	2.8°/2.8° circular spot beam
	0.6°/0.6° circular beam	•
	2.4m antenna:	
	54.9 dBi @29.5GHz	
	0.32°/0.32° circular beam	
Beam pointing direction	Uplink beam centered on	Downlink spot beam centered on IOT earth
	either prototype satellite ⁴	station ⁵
	$Az = 130-230^{\circ}$	
	$E1 = 20-45^{\circ}$	

⁴ Due to the earth station location, satellite altitude and inclination, the transmit beam is always pointing away from the GSO arc such that the experiment complies with Radio Regulations Article 22 EPFD↑ limits.

³ Currently operational under ELS Call Sign WM2XKY.

⁵ Due to the satellite beam pointing there is always sufficient angular separation with GSO earth stations such that the experiment complies with Radio Regulations Article 22 EPFD↓ limits.

Amazon recognizes that experimental operations must not cause harmful interference to authorized facilities, and will maintain a 24hr/7day "stop-buzzer" contact to address any complaint of interference and cease operations.

(5) Time and dates of proposed operation.

Amazon seeks an STA for six months, commencing no later than April 16, 2024.

The experiment will be carried out for short periods when a satellite is visible and will last for a few minutes for each contact pass.

(6) Radiofrequency ("RF") exposure compliance

Amazon's IOT antennas are located on private property on a rooftop with controlled access preventing any exposure risk to the general population. Occupational workers will be properly trained on how to limit their exposure levels. In addition, signs will be installed to provide information on exposure risks.