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Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of)
)
The Establishment of Commission Rules)
concerning the Administration of)
Accounting Authorities in the Maritime)
Mobile and the Maritime Mobile-)
Satellite Radio Services Except for)
Distress and Safety Communications)

MD Docket No. 93-297

To: The Commission

MOTION TO ACCEPT LATE-FILED REPLY

COMSAT Corporation ("COMSAT"), through its COMSAT Mobile Communications division, hereby moves for the acceptance of the attached "REPLY OF COMSAT CORPORATION" ("REPLY") which was due to be filed with the Commission on February 18, 1994, in the above-captioned proceeding.¹

COMSAT prepared the instant REPLY and tendered it to a courier service at 3:30 p.m., at our Clarksburg, Maryland offices, on Friday, February 18, 1994. Because of substantial traffic delays on the Beltway and a traffic accident in downtown Washington, the courier did not reach the Commission until 5:35 p.m. on Friday. A security guard at the front desk stated that the Secretary's office was closed and denied the courier entry to the building. The courier returned the filing to COMSAT's Clarksburg office later that evening.

¹Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, MD Docket No. 93-297, released December 17, 1993.

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Acceptance of the attached REPLY is in the public interest. The instant proceeding is a rule making proceeding in which the Commission has solicited comments from the public. COMSAT's REPLY contains our response to the five other comments, besides COMSAT's, which were timely filed with the Commission on February 3, 1994. The Commission's consideration of COMSAT's REPLY will serve the public interest by providing a full opportunity for public comment on the Commission's proposed rules.

No party will be prejudiced by acceptance of COMSAT's late-filed REPLY. COMSAT has refiled its REPLY promptly with the Commission on the next business day following the February 18 deadline for submission of replies.² Because the filing is a reply, there is no opportunity for parties to respond to the pleading. In addition, COMSAT served all parties which it was aware had filed comments in this proceeding with a copy of its REPLY by first class mail on February 18, 1994.

²The Commission was closed on Monday, February 21, 1994, in observance of the President's day holiday.

Should the Commission deem that a waiver of the rules is necessary for acceptance of the attached REPLY, COMSAT requests a waiver of Section 1.414(c) of the Commission's Rules to permit the submission.

Respectfully Submitted,

COMSAT Corporation

By: 
Nancy J. Thompson

COMSAT Mobile Communications
22300 COMSAT Drive
Clarksburg, MD 20871

(301) 428-2268

Its Attorney

February 22, 1994

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Pamela L. Sonnevile, hereby certify that the foregoing "Motion to Accept Late-Filed Reply" was served by first-class mail, postage prepaid, this 22nd day of February, 1994, on the following persons:

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