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BY HAND DELIVERY

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: **Remarks Regarding Further Notice of
Proposed Rule Making in Gen. Docket 93-252**

Dear Mr. Caton:

TRW Inc. ("TRW"), one of the low-Earth orbit mobile satellite service ("LEO MSS") Above 1 GHz applicants, through undersigned counsel, hereby comments on a very narrow aspect of the above-referenced proceeding. TRW comments only the issue of whether the Commission should implement spectrum caps for the providers of commercial mobile radio services ("CMRS").

At paragraph 97 of the Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making ("Further Notice") in the above-referenced proceeding, the Commission recognizes that space stations, i.e., "satellites", are bent pipes which require access to earth stations in order to function as means of communications. Satellites, therefore, are often regulated as "non-common carriers" precisely because they function only to transmit information from one earth station (even if hand-held) to another. It is for this reason that TRW has urged the Commission that it would be inappropriate to classify mobile space segment operators as CMRS providers. Likewise, mobile space station licensees should not be subject to the spectrum caps proposed in the Further Notice.

TRW believes, however, that spectrum caps should not be implemented for any service, and particularly for emerging mobile services. The Further Notice at paragraphs 89 - 91 reviews the many limitations which already exist to protect against any one

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entity's monopolizing mobile services in a particular geographic region. These limitations should be sufficient to ensure competitive mobile services are universally available. If, through experience, the Commission finds that the existing limitations are insufficient or that they have not worked to ensure the presence of competitive mobile services in all regions, the Commission can then build a record and take action as needed. The present record, however, does not support a conclusion that artificial barriers, such as spectrum caps, are needed or that they will ensure a competitive mobile marketplace.

As specifically applied to mobile satellite operators, there is no evidence that spectrum caps are needed nor that they would accomplish anything except disrupt the workings of a competitive space segment marketplace. The only spectrum available for the current round of LEO MSS applicants are 16.5 MHz (1610 - 1626.5 MHz) for uplinks and 16.5 MHz (2483.5 - 2500 MHz) for downlinks. There are five applications pending before the Commission to share these 33 MHz globally among these proposed systems. This can hardly be classified as "spectrum hogging." Furthermore, as also acknowledged in the Further Notice at paragraph 98, these proposed MSS systems will undoubtedly have less spectrum available when international coordinations are completed. Whatever concerns the Commission may have with respect to CMRS operators aggregating large chunks of spectrum within the same service regions, it is difficult to consider in the same manner satellite operators sharing 33 MHz of bandwidth globally.

Even if additional spectrum is made available for mobile satellite services by the World Radiocommunication Conferences in 1995 or 1997, the amount of potentially available spectrum is de minimis compared to that which is already being made available by the Commission for terrestrial CMRS. It is only when the marketplace fails to create a competitive market that regulators should consider imposing artificial constructs as an auxiliary to market forces. TRW does not believe it is necessary, nor on the basis of the current record, sound policy, to establish artificial limits on the use of spectrum by any one entity. But, it is unjustified in any possible manner to consider applying spectrum caps to MSS space station

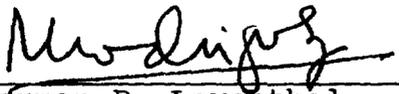
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operators. The marketplace has evidenced a plethora of potential MSS space station operators proposing to share a very narrow bandwidth of spectrum, and the Commission should continue to allow the marketplace to self-manage access to spectrum.

Respectfully submitted,

TRW Inc.

By: 
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Its Attorneys

RRR/kam