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September 18, 1995

BY HAND

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

RECEIVED

SEP 18 1995

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY**

Re: Ex Parte Contact in ET Docket No. 95-18

Dear Mr. Caton:

On Thursday September, 18, 1995, representatives of COMSAT Mobile Communications, a division of COMSAT Corporation, Celsat America Inc., and Personal Communications Satellite Corporation (the "MSS Coalition") conducted a briefing for FCC staff in the Office of Engineering & Technology and the International Bureau. The parties attending the briefing on behalf of the MSS Coalition and the FCC are identified below. The primary purpose of the briefing was to discuss the MSS Coalition's request for the appointment of a "facilitator" in the above-referenced docket as described in the MSS Coalition's letter to Mr. Thomas S. Tycz, dated September 11, 1995. A copy of aforementioned letter is attached to the original and one copy of this letter filed with the Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy J. Thompson

Attachment

- cc: Richard M. Smith
- Bruce A. Franca
- Michael Marcus
- Charles Iseman
- Fred Thomas
- Sean White
- Tom Tycz
- Lon C. Levin
- Glenn S. Richards
- Thomas J. Casey
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September 11, 1995

Mr. Thomas S. Tycz
Chief
Satellite & Radiocommunication Division
International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
2000 M Street, N.W., Rm. 811
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Allocation of Spectrum at 2 GHz for Use by MSS
(ET Docket No. 95-18)

Dear Mr. Tycz:

COMSAT Mobile Communications, a division of COMSAT Corporation, on behalf of itself and Personal Communications Satellite Corporation and Celsat America, Inc. (the "MSS Coalition"), hereby requests the Commission to appoint a "facilitator" to assist in detailed technical discussions between representatives of the MSS Coalition and those of the common carrier and private operational fixed licensees at 2160-2200 MHz concerning the prospects for "sharing" those frequencies between MSS and the terrestrial licensees. MSS participants in the Commission's docket ET 95-18 have indicated their belief that such sharing is feasible, and have provided detailed studies supporting this position. In response, the terrestrial licensees have raised numerous technical issues, and clearly there would be benefit in conducting orderly and expeditious discussions on these points, in the hope of narrowing the matters at issue in the docket or possibly reaching a mutually-acceptable set of conclusions.

As we conceive it, the role of a "facilitator" would be to help the parties focus on the relevant concerns and to promote and coordinate orderly discussion of very complex technical issues. The facilitator might also bring forth concepts or raise issues gleaned from their extensive prior relevant experience, which the parties might wish to consider. The facilitator would have no decisional authority in this proceeding; thus, the responsibility of the facilitator would be substantively different from the role of an arbitrator, for example.

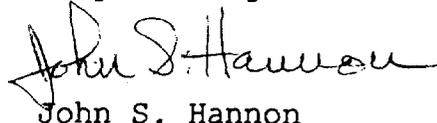
As to "nominees" for performing this role, we believe the facilitator should be drawn from the ranks of highly-experienced federal civil servants with a background in the technical communications area. We would first recommend Mr. Thomas Stanley, Chief Engineer, Office of Plans

Mr. Thomas S. Tycz
September 11, 1995
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& Policy, who clearly has the broad technical expertise and reputation for objectivity and fairness which this role would require. If Mr. Stanley cannot be available, then we recommend Mr. Richard Parlow, Associate Administrator, Office of Spectrum Management, NTIA. Other possible nominees would include Mr. William Gamble, Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Spectrum Management, NTIA, and Mr. John Gilson, State Department.

We believe it would be extremely important for the facilitator to be nominated and to organize at least one or two substantive meetings of the affected industries prior to the beginning of WRC-95 in October. Thus we request your expeditious treatment of this request, and would be happy to answer any questions you may have about this proposal.

Respectfully submitted,



John S. Hannon

cc: All Parties of Record in ET Docket 95-18
Thomas Stanley
Richard Parlow
William Gamble
John Gilson
Scott Harris
Richard Smith
Donald Gips
Ronald Netro
Sean White

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Pamela L. Sonnevile, hereby certify that the foregoing "Letter to Thomas Tycz" was served by first-class mail, postage prepaid, this 11th day of September, 1995, on the following persons:

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