HALPRIN, TEMPLE, GOODMAN & SUGRUE

1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 650 EAST
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
(202) 371-9100 TELEFAX: (202) 371-1497
HTTP://WWW.HTGS.COM

COPY

ALBERT HALPRIN
RILEY K. TEMPLE
STEPHEN L. GOODMAN
MELANIE HARATUNIAN
WILLIAM F. MAHER, JR.

THOMAS J. SUGRUE
JOEL BERNSTEIN

J. RANDALL COOK
JEFFREY L. MAGENAU*
*ADMITTED MD.

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

August 13, 1997

RECEIVED

AUG 13 1997

Via Hand Delivery

Harold Ng, Chief
Satellite Engineering Branch
Federal Communications Commission
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 512
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: IB Docket No. 96-220 -- *Ex Parte* Submission

Dear Mr. Ng:

In response to your inquiry at the meeting the other day, Orbital Communications Corporation ("ORBCOMM") has prepared a chart reflecting a frequency plan for the 137-138 MHz band. The chart should be self-explanatory, and reflects (i) the existing situation (*i.e.*, including Starsys and the ORBCOMM modification to use 9.6 kbps channels); (ii) the current situation with the addition of a new "System 2" and ORBCOMM's use of additional spectrum to support the extra twelve satellites; and (iii) the anticipated use of the band once NOAA and METEOR complete their migration. As the chart illustrates, even assuming ORBCOMM is granted its request for an additional 70 kHz of spectrum, "System 2" will have access to some 540 kHz of downlink spectrum in the 137-138 MHz band during the transition period, and to some 600 kHz of downlink spectrum in the 137-138 MHz band after the MetSat transition. In addition, it may be possible for "System 2" to use the 25 kHz assigned to Starsys at the very bottom end of the band. Under these conditions, we believe that it should be possible to design a robust "System 2" that will operate downlinks in the 137-138 MHz band without precluding ORBCOMM from receipt of the additional spectrum to support the extra twelve satellites.

No. of Copies rec'd 2
List ABCDE

I trust that the enclosed information satisfies your request. Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional clarification or information.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Goodman

Enclosure

cc: William Caton
Ruth Milkman
Tom Tycz
Alex Roytblat
Dan Connors
Cassandra Thomas

Band Plan for the 137 - 138 MHz band

ORBCOMM on Meteor Frequencies

EXISTING SITUATION					Interim MODIFICATION					Final MODIFICATION				
User	Center Freq	Band width	Channel Limits	delta kHz	User	Center Freq	Band width	Channel Limits	delta kHz	User	Center Freq	Band width	Channel Limits	
STARSYS	137.0125	25	137.0000											
GES			137.0250											
MetSat	137.1000	150	137.0250		Metsat	137.1000	150	137.0250		MetSat	137.1000	150	137.0250	
					System 2					System 2				
			137.1750					137.1750					137.1750	
S-1	137.2000	25	137.1875	12.5	S-1	137.2000	25	137.1875	12.5	S-1	137.2000	25	137.1875	12.5
			137.2125					137.2125					137.2125	
S-2	137.2250	25	137.2125		S-2	137.2250	25	137.2125		S-2	137.2250	25	137.2125	
			137.2375					137.2375					137.2375	
S-3	137.2500	25	137.2375		S-3	137.2500	25	137.2375		S 3	137.2500	25	137.2375	
			137.2625					137.2625					137.2625	
Meteor-2	137.3000	50	137.2750	12.5	Meteor 2	137.2750	25	137.2625	0.0	S-11	137.2750	25	137.2625	0.0
					S-11			137.2875					137.2875	
					Meteor 2	137.3000	25	137.2875		S-12	137.3000	25	137.2875	
			137.3250		S-12			137.3125					137.3125	
NOAA	137.3500	34	137.3330	8.0	Beacon	137.3500	50	137.3250	12.5	System 2	137.3675	110	137.3125	0.0
Beacon					System 2									
			137.3670					137.3750						
Meteor-2	137.4000	50	137.3750	8.0	Meteor 2	137.3875	25	137.3750	0.0					
					S-11'			137.4000						
					Meteor 2	137.4125	25	137.4000						
			137.4250		S-12'			137.4250					137.4225	
S-4	137.4350	25	137.4225	-2.5	S-4	137.4350	25	137.4225	-2.5	S-4	137.4350	25	137.4225	0.0
			137.4475					137.4475					137.4475	
S-5	137.4600	25	137.4475		S-5	137.4600	25	137.4475		S-5	137.4600	25	137.4475	
			137.4725					137.4725					137.4725	
NOAA APT	137.5000	50	137.4750	2.5	APT	137.5037	62.5	137.4725		System 2	137.5037	62.5	137.4725	
			137.5250		System 2			137.5350					137.5350	

EXISTING SITUATION					Interim MODIFICATION					Final MODIFICATION			
User	Center Freq	Band width	Channel Limits	delta kHz	User	Center Freq	Band width	Channel Limits	delta kHz	User	Center Freq	Band width	Channel Limits	
ORB GES	137.5600	50	137.5350	10.0	ORB GES	137.5600	50	137.5350	0.0	ORB GES	137.5600	50	137.5350	0.0
			137.5850					137.5850					137.5850	
NOAA APT	137.6200	50	137.5950	10.0	APT	137.6113	52.5	137.5850	0.0	System 2	137.6113	52.5	137.5851	0.0
			137.6450		System 2			137.6375					137.6376	
S-6	137.6575	15	137.6500	5.0	S-6	137.6500	25	137.6375	0.0	S-6	137.6500	25	137.6375	0.0
			137.6650					137.6625					137.6625	
S-7	137.6775	25	137.6650		S-7	137.6750	25	137.6625		S-7	137.6750	25	137.6625	
			137.6900					137.6875					137.6875	
S-8	137.7025	25	137.6900		S-8	137.7000	25	137.6875		S-8	137.7000	25	137.6875	
			137.7150					137.7125					137.7125	
S-9	137.7275	25	137.7150		S-9	137.7250	25	137.7125		S-9	137.7250	25	137.7125	
			137.7400					137.7375					137.7375	
NOAA Beacon	137.7700	34	137.7530	13.0	NOAA System 2	137.7625	50	137.7375	0.0	System 2	137.7625	50	137.7375	0.0
			137.7870					137.7875					137.7875	
S-10	137.8100	15	137.8025	15.5	S-10	137.8000	25	137.7875	0.0	S-10	137.8000	25	137.7875	0.0
			137.8175					137.8125					137.8125	
Meteor-2	137.8500	50	137.8250	7.5	MetSat System 2	137.9125	175	137.8250	12.5	MetSat System 2	137.9125	175	137.8250	12.5
			137.8750					138.0000					138.0000	

TOTAL P.03