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BEFORE THE
Federal Communications Commission
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JUN 24 1999

In the Matter of)
)
The Establishment of Policies)
and Service Rules for the Mobile)
Satellite Service in the 2 GHz Band)

IB Docket No. 99-81
RM Docket No. 9328

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

COMMENTS OF WINSTAR COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

WinStar Communications, Inc. ("WinStar"), by its attorneys, hereby files its Comments in the above-captioned proceeding.¹

I. Introduction

WinStar is a nationwide competitive fixed wireless carrier with FCC licenses in a number of bands, including the 28/31 GHz ("Local Multipoint Distribution Service") and 38.6-40.0 GHz ("38 GHz") bands. WinStar currently operates in 31 markets and provides over 15,000 small- and medium-sized business customers with broadband communications services. Such services include local and long distance, data, voice and video services, as well as high speed Internet and information services.

In the Notice, the Commission proposes its policies and rules for a new generation of mobile satellite services ("MSS") in the 2 GHz band. There are nine proposals for MSS systems currently before the Commission. These systems plan to provide regional and global voice, data, and messaging services.² The satellite proposals also include separate requests for spectrum

¹ In re The Establishment of Policies and Service Rules for the Mobile Satellite Service in the 2 GHz Band, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, IB Docket No. 99-81, RM-9328 (rel. March 25, 1999) ("Notice").

² Notice, at ¶ 1.

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