

August 7, 2003

**BY ELECTRONIC FILING**

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Consolidated Application of General Motors Corporation, Hughes Electronics Corporation, and The News Corporation Limited for Authority to Transfer Control (MB Docket No. 03-124)*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In an effort to inform the Commission of information related to The News Corporation Limited (“News Corp.”), General Motors Corporation (“GM”) and Hughes Electronics Corporation (“Hughes”) (collectively, the “Applicants”) in the above-cited proceeding, the Applicants hereby notify you of a stay in the on-going litigation between NDS Group plc, a subsidiary of News Corp., and DIRECTV, Inc. The stay will remain in effect until the close of the transaction between News Corp, Hughes and GM at which time all claims and counterclaims in the suit will be dismissed with prejudice. A news release detailing terms of the stay is attached hereto.

Marlene H. Dortch  
July 14, 2003  
Page 2 of 2

If you have any questions regarding the foregoing, we are available to discuss it with you at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

ls\  
William M. Wiltshire  
*Counsel for The News Corporation Limited*

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Gary M. Epstein

ls\  
Richard E. Wiley  
*Counsel for General Motors Corporation  
and Hughes Electronics Corporation*

cc: W. Kenneth Ferree  
Barbara Esbin  
Marcia Glauberman  
James Bird  
JoAnn Lucanik  
Doug Webbink  
Linda Senecal  
Neil Dellar  
Simon Willkie  
Tracy Waldon



**Contacts:** Bob Marsocci  
DIRECTV, Inc.  
(310) 726-4656  
ramarsocci@directv.com

Margot Field  
NDS Group plc  
+44 (0) 208 476 8158  
mfield@ndsuk.com

## **DIRECTV and NDS Announce Stay in Litigation**

**EL SEGUNDO, CA and LONDON, August 5, 2003** – DIRECTV, Inc. and NDS Group plc announced today that they have agreed to stay the litigation between them pending in the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles, Calif. The stay will continue until the anticipated closing of the acquisition by NDS' parent company, The News Corporation Limited, of 34 percent of DIRECTV's parent company, Hughes Electronics Corporation. The acquisition is currently undergoing regulatory review and is expected to close by year-end, upon which the litigation and all claims and counterclaims alleged therein, will be dismissed with prejudice.

The companies further announced that DIRECTV will begin deploying a new conditional access viewing card, known as the D1 card, which contains technology contributed by both DIRECTV and NDS. NDS and DIRECTV have also agreed to discuss plans for future generations of conditional access viewing cards to be used by DIRECTV.

In connection with their agreement to stay the litigation, the parties have entered into specified commercial arrangements, which include resolving outstanding payment issues with respect to the P4 and D1 viewing cards.

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## **DIRECTV and NDS Announce Stay in Litigation**

### **Page 2**

#### **About DIRECTV**

DIRECTV is the nation's leading digital multichannel television service provider with more than 11.5 million customers. DIRECTV and the Cyclone Design logo are trademarks of DIRECTV, Inc., a unit of Hughes Electronics Corp. HUGHES is the world-leading provider of digital television entertainment, broadband satellite networks and services, and global video and data broadcasting. The earnings of HUGHES, a unit of General Motors Corporation, are used to calculate the earnings attributable to the General Motors Class H common stock (NYSE: GMH). For more information, visit [www.DIRECTV.com](http://www.DIRECTV.com).

#### **About NDS**

NDS Group plc (NASDAQ/ NASDAQ Europe: NNDS) is a leading supplier of open end-to-end digital pay TV solutions for the secure delivery of entertainment and information to television set-top boxes and IP devices. See <http://www.nds.com/> for more information about NDS.

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