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May 26, 2005

BY ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentation, MD Docket No. 05-59

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This afternoon representatives of three satellite operators met with members of the Commission staff to discuss matters relating to regulatory fees paid by the companies. Satellite company representatives present at the meeting were Susan Crandall of Intelsat, Joseph Godles, counsel to PanAmSat, Nancy Eskenazi of SES Americom, and the undersigned, counsel to SES Americom. Commission staff present at the meeting were Mark Reger, Patricia Cappello, Clara Boykin, and Karen Wheeless of the Office of Managing Director and Jacki Ponti, David Krech, and Sam Castor of the International Bureau.

The parties discussed the issues addressed in the comments of the Satellite Industry Association, of which they are members, in this proceeding. In particular, the companies described their experience with the implementation last year of a billing system for space station regulatory fees and problems that had arisen during that process. They also discussed with staff measures that could be taken to improve the accuracy and efficiency of billing and collection procedures for space station and earth station regulatory fees.

The parties also urged the Commission to exempt private carrier satellite operators from regulatory fees for international bearer circuits ("IBCs"). The parties advised the Commission staff that the combined IBC fees paid in FY 2004 by Intelsat, PanAmSat and SES Americom represented less than 3% of the total FY 2004 revenue requirement for that fee category. If the amount paid by the three satellite companies had been spread among the other IBC fee payers, the per circuit fee would have increased by only 8 cents, from $2.52 to $2.60. However, the parties noted that calculating IBC fees subjects them to substantial administrative

burdens because it is extremely difficult to identify traffic that is subject to the fee. The parties also observed that when it was initially adopted, the IBC fee was not applied to private carrier satellite operators. The parties discussed with staff the possibility of collecting the IBC revenue requirement through alternative means, such as assessing a fee on each international Section 214 authorization and cable landing license.

Please direct any questions regarding this submission to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Karis A. Hastings
Counsel for SES Americom, Inc.

cc: Mark Reger
Patricia Cappello
Clara Boykin
Karen Wheeless
Jacki Ponti
David Krech
Sam Castor