



September 30, 2005

Via Electronic Filing

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

Re: **EX PARTE**
IB Docket Nos. 05-220 & 05-221

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Satellite Industry Association (“SIA”)¹ submits this letter to underscore the need for policies that strongly support satellite spectrum allocations, as illustrated by the satellite industry’s significant role in the recovery and relief efforts during and following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The attached presentation shows how satellite systems are linking disparate user groups and communications systems to assist in the Hurricane Katrina and Rita relief efforts. The industry’s efforts exemplify satellites’ interoperability with terrestrial communications networks. They also demonstrate satellites’ essential role in meeting public safety and homeland security needs during natural and man-made disasters.

In its previous filing in this proceeding, SIA urged the Commission to maintain the current allocation of 2 x 20 MHz for the 2 GHz mobile satellite service.² SIA noted that in light of the significant disparity between terrestrial and MSS allocations, there is no basis for further

¹ SIA is a U.S.-based trade association providing worldwide representation of the leading satellite operators, service providers, manufacturers, launch services providers, remote sensing operators, and ground equipment suppliers. SIA is the unified voice of the U.S. satellite industry on policy, regulatory, and legislative issues affecting the satellite business.

SIA Executive Members include: The Boeing Company; Globalstar LLC; Hughes Network Systems, Inc.; ICO Global Communications; Intelsat; Iridium Satellite LLC, Lockheed Martin Corp.; Loral Space & Communications Ltd.; Mobile Satellite Ventures LP; Northrop Grumman Corporation; PanAmSat Corporation; SES Americom, Inc., and Terrestar Networks. SIA’s Associate Members include The DirecTV Group, Eutelsat Inc., Inmarsat Global, Ltd., IOT Systems Inc., Marshall Communications Inc., New Skies Satellites Inc., Spacecom Ltd., Stratos Global, and XM Satellite Radio.

² See Comments of the Satellite Industry Association, IB Docket No. 05-221 (filed July 29, 2005).

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch

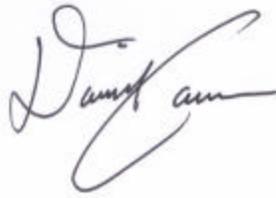
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reallocation of MSS spectrum. Presciently, SIA pointed out that when local wireline or wireless terrestrial-based communications systems are impacted by a disaster, MSS networks are able to provide critical communications capabilities. To ensure the widespread deployment of this potentially lifesaving technology, it is essential the Commission preserve the existing 2 GHz MSS allocation.

Please direct any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David A. Cavossa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

David A. Cavossa
Executive Director
Satellite Industry Association