



August 6, 2008

Via Electronic Filing

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

**Re: The Satellite Industry Association  
*Ex Parte* Letter  
Docket Nos. 06-150 and 06-229**

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Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Satellite Industry Association (“SIA”) hereby submits this *ex parte* letter to supplement the record with information regarding broadband speeds that satellites are capable of providing and the prices to end-users. At present, Mobile Satellite Service (“MSS”) and Fixed Satellite Service (“FSS”) operators are capable of providing download speeds up to approximately 500 Kbps and 3 Mbps, respectively.<sup>1</sup> Next-generation MSS satellites, which a number of operators are launching soon or have recently launched, will be capable of providing even higher transmission speeds. With respect to equipment costs, some commenters have indicated that satellite functionality can be incorporated into modern handsets with minor impact on manufacturing costs.<sup>2</sup>

As a trade association, SIA is not able to provide estimates of future end-user service prices. Nonetheless, SIA believes that, if the Commission retains the public-private partnership and the D Block licensee is accorded flexibility in meeting build-out or hardening requirements for offering a satellite component as part of the shared 700 MHz public/private network, the D Block licensee should be able to generate enormous cost savings that could be passed onto end users.

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<sup>1</sup> Upload transmission speeds are up to approximately 500 Kbps for MSS and 1 Mbps for FSS.

<sup>2</sup> See Comments of Ericsson Inc., at 28 (June 20, 2008); Comments of Mobile Satellite Ventures, at 14 (June 20, 2008) (\$5 or less per handset).

Respectfully submitted,  
SATELLITE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Cooper". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patricia Cooper, President  
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