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November 9, 2010

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

Re: ***EX PARTE NOTICE***

Report to Congress Regarding the ORBIT Act, IB Docket No. 10-70; Fourth Annual Report to Congress on Status of Competition in the Satellite Services Industry, IB Docket No. 10-99

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On November 8th, 2010, ARTEL, Incorporated (“ARTEL”) met with Roderick Porter, Robert Nelson, Jerry Duvall, Walt Strack, Alan Thomas, and Marilyn Simon of the International Bureau to discuss fixed satellite service (“FSS”) competition issues and market structure. Attending this meeting on behalf of ARTEL were Ron Seward, Vice President - Business Development, as well as Catherine Wang, Frank Lamancusa and Tim Bransford of Bingham McCutchen LLP, outside counsel to ARTEL.

During this meeting ARTEL discussed the importance of commercial space segment to the United States Government, and the critical need for a fully competitive U.S. satellite market that will enable government agencies to freely procure space segment and complementary services. ARTEL discussed competitive issues regarding key domestic and international routes and why FSS communications remain the only viable transmission medium for reaching large geographic areas of strategic significance to the U.S. Government. ARTEL also discussed recent developments affecting the structure of the FSS market, including further consolidation and vertical integration.¹ ARTEL stressed the public interest benefits of greater Commission oversight to ensure the preservation and stewardship of limited orbital resources for which there are no adequate substitutes.

¹ For example, SES’s September 2010 announcement concerning the consolidation of its government solutions group.

See http://www.ses.com/ses/siteSections/newsroom/Latest_News/index.php?pressRelease=/pressReleases/pressReleaseList/10-04-09/index.php

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If you have any questions regarding this meeting, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Catherine Wang

CC: Roderick Porter
Robert Nelson
Jerry Duvall
Walt Strack
Alan Thomas
Marilyn Simon