

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.

In the Matter of)
)
Allocation and Designation of Spectrum for)
Fixed-Satellite Services in the 37.5-38.5)
GHz, 40.5-41.5 GHz, and 48.2-50.2 GHz)
Frequency Bands; Allocation of Spectrum)
to Upgrade Fixed and Mobile Allocations)
in the 40.5-42.5 GHz Frequency Band,)
Allocation of Spectrum in the 46.9-47.0 GHz)
Frequency Band for Wireless Services; and)
Allocation of Spectrum in the 37.0-38.0 GHz)
and 40.0-40.5 GHz Frequency Bands for)
Government Operations)

IB Docket No. 97-95 (RM-881)

To: The International Bureau

**COMMENTS OF SKY STATION INTERNATIONAL, INC. ON
NTIA POSITION ON PROPOSED RULES TO PERMIT USE OF
FREQUENCIES ABOVE 40 GHZ FOR NEW RADIO APPLICATIONS**

Sky Station International, Inc. ("Sky Station") supports the position outlined by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration ("NTIA") in its September 24, 1998, letter with respect to the future uses of the 42.5-43.5 GHz and 47.2-48.2 GHz frequency bands. NTIA's innovative proposal to reallocate the 42.5-43.5 GHz segment for exclusive government use and the 47.2-48.2 GHz segment for exclusive non-government use represents a sensible approach to handling the important spectrum sharing issues raised by Commission licensing of the 47 GHz band. We commend NTIA for coming forth with this forward-looking approach and urge its prompt adoption.

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As NTIA points out in its letter, its proposal will assure commercial bidders that the 47 GHz band will remain usable over all license areas, while at the same time accommodating future Federal requirements above 40 GHz. This approach will permit commercial operators in the 47 GHz band the freedom they need to develop new services, as well as the certainty they need to plan their businesses and attract investments. The Commission's pending proceeding regarding adoption of 47 GHz service rules and auctioning of the 47 GHz band (WT Docket No. 98-136) promises to open the doors to important new services – including the stratospheric services that Sky Station is pioneering – that will promote broadband competition, universal service, U.S. technological leadership, and the public interest. Adoption by the Commission of NTIA's proposal will help these services to flourish. Moreover, since the 42.5-43.5 GHz band is not presently used for commercial purposes, NTIA's proposal will not adversely impact FCC licensees.

Sky Station therefore urges the Commission to take whatever actions are necessary in the context of the V-band proceeding to implement NTIA's proposal to address above-40 GHz band government/commercial sharing issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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