

ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED


HUGHES
 NETWORK SYSTEMS
VIA FACSIMILE

3 March 2000

William Kennard
 Chairman
 Federal Communications Commission
 445 12th Street, S.W.
 Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
 MAR 06 2000
 FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
 WASHINGTON, DC 20554

RE: *IB Docket 98-172*
Written Ex Parte Presentation

Dear Chairman Kennard:

We are sending this update, per your request, to state the Hughes Network Systems/Spaceway position on the status of our on-going interaction with various representatives of the Fixed (Terrestrial) Service (FS) industry regarding 18 GHz.

As we discussed, over the past few weeks there have been joint meetings between the GSO FSS and the FS community to discuss a limited number of issues presented in the 18 GHz NPRM, in which the Commission expects to issue a Report and Order shortly. The GSO FSS community had a very clear goal that was in line with our discussions with your staff: to address only the 30 MHz Private Cable Operator/GSO FSS overlap at 18.55-18.58 GHz, and to reach, with the affected PCO industry, a viable alternative that could jointly be presented to the Commission.

My earlier fax stated that we would return to you with a progress report after our meeting with the FS interests yesterday. Unfortunately, the meetings have not resulted in a solution. Indeed, it is the Hughes Spaceway position that the issues advanced by the FS group with whom we are meeting are beyond the scope of what the GSO FSS industry alone can address. Therefore, both the FS and GSO FSS groups are requesting to meet with Ari Fitzgerald early next week. The purpose of that meeting will be to seek guidance on bounding, or limiting, the 18 GHz issues to a common core around which we can

Hughes Network Systems
 Corporate Offices
 11717 Exploration Lane
 Germantown, MD 20876
 Tel: (301) 428-5500
 TWX: (710) 828-0541
 Fax: (301) 428-1868/2830

No. of Copies rec'd 0+2
 List ABCDE

Chairman William Kennard
Page 2

continuc seeking a mutually acceptable solution. Hughes believes that, at this juncture in the discussions with the FS, such guidance from your staff would facilitate a prompt resolution.

Thank you for giving this matter your attention.

Respectfully,



Joslyn Read
Assistant Vice President
Regulatory & International Affaires

cc: Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary

Hughes Network Systems
Corporate Offices
11717 Exploration Lane
Germantown, MD 20876
Tel: (301) 428-5500
TWX: (710) 828-0541
Fax: (301) 428-1869/2830