

Before The
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the matter of:)
)
)
Amendment of the U.S. Table of Frequency) RM-9911
Allocations to Designate the 2500-2520/2670-)
2690 MHz Frequency Bands for the Mobile-)
Satellite Service)

To: The Commission

OPPOSITION TO PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Network for Instructional TV, Inc. (“NITV”), the licensee of twenty-three (23) Instructional Television Fixed Service (“ITFS”) stations in communities throughout the United States, including stations on the ITFS A- and G-Groups directly affected by this proceeding,¹ hereby submits its Opposition to the Petition for Reconsideration filed by the Satellite Industry Association (“SIA” and “SIA Petition”) challenging the FCC’s well-founded decision not to allocate 2500 – 2520 MHz and 2670-2690 MHz bands for the Mobile Satellite Service (“MSS”).²

NITV is a “not-for-profit” learning and technology corporation established in 1979 to address the educational technology needs of underserved, undertaught and minority K-12

¹ NITV holds the following ITFS licenses: WLX-951, Anderson, IN; WLX-787, Baltimore, MD; WND-252, Bloomington, IN; WLX-278, Champaign, IL; WHR-883, Ft. Worth, TX; WFD-456, Indianapolis, IN; WHR-523, Kansas City, MO; WHR-514, Milwaukee, WI; WHR-513, New Orleans, LA; WHR-520, New York, NY; WLX-490, Nolanville, TX; WHR-525, Pittsburgh, PA; WHR-515, Portland, OR; WLX-291 and WLX-292, Saginaw, MI; WLX-874, San Antonio, TX; WLX-759, St. Louis, MO; WHR-518, Tampa, FL; WLX-486, West-Waco, TX; and WHR-461, Washington, D.C. Additionally, NITV’s local educational affiliates hold WHR-790, Miami, FL (Southern Florida Instructional TV, Inc.), WNC-804 (Atlanta Educational Services, Inc.) and WHR-525 (Delaware Valley Educational Television Network, Inc.).

² *Amendment of Part 2 of the Commission’s Rules to Allocate Spectrum Below 3 GHz for Mobile and Fixed Services to Support the Introduction of New Advanced Wireless Services, including Third Generation Wireless Systems*, ET Docket No. 00-258, *Petition for Rulemaking of the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association Concerning Implementation of WRC-2000: Review of Spectrum and Regulatory Requirements for IMT-2000*, RM-9920, *Amendment of the U.S. Table of Frequency Allocations to Designate the 2500-2520/2670-2690 MHz Frequency Bands for the Mobile-Satellite Service* (Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order), RM-9911, released January 5, 2001, at paragraph 73 (“*NPRM and Order*”).

children in inner city and rural areas, and the faculty who serve them. NITV accomplishes its mission primarily through utilization of its ITFS capacity. Through such utilization, NITV has forged relationships with fifty-seven (57) local school districts in twenty-two (22) cities in thirteen (13) states and the District of Columbia. Collectively, these local NITV educational affiliates serve about 1 million students and teachers in more than 1,400 classrooms daily.

NITV is able to provide its educational services because of the financial and technical support provided by the commercial fixed wireless operators with whom it has forged business relationships pursuant to the FCC's ITFS leasing rules. These relationships are the lifeblood of existing educational services provided over the ITFS channels, and have created a unique opportunity for NITV and other ITFS licensees to roll out educational broadband services to numerous U.S. schools located not only in areas currently served by incumbent DSL and cable companies but also in areas where capital-intensive expansions of DSL and cable lines are economically infeasible. Given these business relationships, MSS sharing on the 2500 – 2520 MHz and 2670-2690 MHz bands would not only interfere with NITV's use of the A- and G-Groups, but also would denigrate and potentially terminate NITV's agreements with commercial fixed wireless operators in every community where NITV holds an ITFS license.

SIA's Petition provides no basis whatsoever for overturning of the Commission's decision not to add an MSS allocation at 2500 – 2520 MHz and 2670-2690 MHz. SIA argues that the Commission erred in concluding that sharing between existing terrestrial fixed ITFS and Multipoint Distribution Service ("MDS") systems ("ITFS/MDS systems") and mobile satellite systems "would present substantial technical challenges."³ However, despite being the proponent of such sharing, SIA's petitions have lacked current, independent evidence upon which the Commission could conclude that sharing is feasible. Even putting aside evidence

³ *Id.*; SIA Petition at 2.

demonstrating that sharing between MSS and ITFS/MDS systems is likely to be *infeasible*, SIA has submitted no substantiation for its request that the Commission take the drastic step of allocating mobile satellite-based services on the same frequencies that fixed services are currently being provided.⁴

SIA is plainly incorrect in arguing that the “economics of MMDS/ITFS dictate that the service be deployed only in more densely populated areas.”⁵ The unique value of ITFS and commercial fixed wireless services provided on the 2.1 and 2.5 GHz bands is that these services can economically extend broadband services to rural and underserved areas where cable and DSL cannot reach. Accordingly, SIA’s claim that “geographic separation of MSS and ITFS/MDS users should significantly alleviate any potential interference between the services,” is preposterous.⁶

SIA misleadingly cites an outdated and obsolete third party study that did not specifically consider the characteristics of two-way ITFS/MDS systems to show that MSS *spacecraft* will not interfere with fixed services.⁷ Obviously, the mobile services aspect of MSS also must be considered. Given SIA’s claims that allocation of 2500 – 2520 MHz and 2670-2690 MHz to MSS will permit satellite IMT-2000 services, it seems clear that the reams of data demonstrating that IMT-2000 services cannot share the 2.5 GHz band with ITFS/MDS systems apply here.⁸

⁴ See *In the Matter of Redesignation of the 17.7 – 19.7 GHz Frequency Band, Blanket Licensing of Satellite Earth Stations in the 17.7 – 20.2 GHz and 27.5 – 30.0 GHz Frequency Bands, and the Allocation of Additional Spectrum in the 17.3 – 17.8 GHz and 24.75-25.25 GHz Frequency Bands for Broadcast Satellite-Service Use*, 15 FCC Rcd 13430 (2000), at paragraph 17 (operating terrestrial wireless and mobile satellite services in the same band on a co-channel basis “not feasible”).

⁵ SIA Petition at 6.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ SIA Petition at 6-7.

⁸ FCC Staff Report Issued by the Office of Engineering and Technology, Mass Media Bureau, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, and International Bureau, “Spectrum Study of the 2500 – 2690 MHz Band: The Potential for Accommodating Third Generation Mobile Systems,” Interim Report, ET Docket No. 00-232, DA 00-

SIA also is misguided in claiming that a Telecommunications Industry Association working group study (“TIA study”) that evaluates sharing between MSS and *point-to-point* Common Carrier and Private Operational-Fixed services is a demonstration of the feasibility of MSS sharing with ITFS/MDS systems.⁹ ITFS/MDS systems involve *point-to-multipoint* downstream operations and, increasingly, upstream operations originating from multitudinous points. These systems are vastly more complex than the point-to-point facilities reviewed by TIA. It is self-evident that the TIA study simply is not relevant to sharing between MSS and ITFS/MDS systems.

Finally, NITV notes that MSS has provided little support for its claims that current MSS allocations are insufficient. The FCC requires information on services currently offered, current and projected demand and growth rates for those services, market studies evaluating projected demand and other relevant data in order to make a spectrum allocation decision.¹⁰ SIA has submitted none of this information, merely claiming that all of the spectrum currently allocated for MSS is close to being assigned.¹¹

2583, released November 15, 2000, at 42 (“*FCC Interim Report*”); George W. Harter, MSI, “Feasibility Study on Spectrum Sharing between Fixed Terrestrial Wireless Services and proposed Third Generation Mobile Services in the 2500-2690 MHz Bands,” October, 2000 (Appendix 5.2 to *FCC Interim Report*) at A-74; George W. Harter, MSI, “Interference to 3G Systems from ITFS/MDS Systems Sharing the Same Frequencies,” attached as Appendix A to Comments of The Wireless Communications Association International, Inc., ET Docket No. 00-258, February 22, 2001, at 3.

⁹ SIA Petition at 6, citing “Criteria and Methodology to Assess Interference Between Systems in the Fixed Service and the Mobile-Satellite Service in the Band 2165-2200 MHz,” *TIA/EIA Telecommunications Systems Bulletin* (TSB86), October 1999. At page 7, for example, the cited study describes the terrestrial systems being evaluated as “fixed service point-to-point systems.”

¹⁰ *NPRM and Order* at paragraph 20.

¹¹ SIA Petition at 3. Indeed, the only fact presented by SIA is that the World Radiocommunication Conference (“WRC”) has suggested 2500 – 2520 MHz and 2670-2690 MHz as the bands for the satellite component of 3G services. This is plainly wrong since WRC did not resolve that issue.

Accordingly, the Petition for Reconsideration filed by SIA must be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

NETWORK FOR INSTRUCTIONAL TV, INC.

By: _____
Robert J. Rini

Rini, Coran & Lancellotta, P.C.
1350 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 296-2007

Its Counsel

March 22, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Yvette Graves, with the law firm of Rini, Coran & Lancellotta, P.C., do hereby certify that the foregoing "Opposition to Petition for Reconsideration" was mailed postage pre-paid first-class mail on March 22, 2001.

Michael Fitch
Clayton Mowry
The Satellite Industry Association
225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 600
Alexandria, VA 22314

Edwin N. Lavergne, Esq.
Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP
600 14th Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20005-2004

Ronald D. Maines, Esq.
Wood Maines & Brown, Chartered
1821 Jefferson Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Todd D. Gray
Dow, Lohnes & Albertson, pllc
1200 New Hampshire Ave, N.W.
Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20036-6802

Marilyn Mohrman-Gillis
Association of America's Public Television Stations
1350 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.,
Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036

Richard F. Swift, Esq.
2175 K Street, N.W., Suite 350
Washington, D.C. 20037-1803

Paul J. Sinderbrand, Esq.
Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP
2300 N Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20037-1128

David Richards
BellSouth Corporation
11255 Peachtree Street, N.E., 18th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30309-3610

Perry M. LaForge
CDMA Development Group, Inc.
Executive Director
575 Anton Boulevard, Suite 560
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Jay C. Keithley
Sprint Corporation
401 Ninth Street, N.W.
Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20004

Cheryl A. Tritt
Morrison & Foerster LLP
2000 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 5500
Washington, D.C. 20006

J. Curtis-Henderson
Sr. Vice President and General Counsel
Nucentrix Broadband Networks, Inc.
200 Chisholm Place
Suite 200
Plano, Texas 75075

Robert A. Calaff, Esq.
Corporate Council
Government and Regulatory Affairs
VoiceStream Wireless Corporation
401 9th Street, N.W., Suite 550
Washington, D.C. 20004

Steve B. Sharkey
Telecommunications Regulation
Motorola, Inc.
1350 I Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Jennifer M. McCarthy
Director, International Government Affairs
QUALCOMM Inc.
2000 K Street, N.W.
Suite 375
Washington, D.C. 20006

Diane Law Hsu
Corporate Counsel
Lucent Technologies, Inc.
8201 Greensboro Drive, Suite 717
McLean, VA 22101

Ernest G. Sanchez
Susan M. Jenkins
The Sanchez Law Firms
2000 L Street, N.W.
Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036

Leslie W. Griffin, Jr.
Edgar A. Hartzog
South Carolina Educational Television Commission
1101 George Rogers Boulevard
P.O. Box 1100
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Robyn G. Nietert, Esq.
Rhonda L. Neil, Esq.
Brown Nietert & Kaufman, Chartered
1920 N Street, N.W., Suite 660
Washington, D.C. 20036

John Schwartz
Instructional Telecommunications
Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 6060
Boulder, CO 80306

David R. Lamarre
Vice President and General counsel
Gregory Caligari
Associate General Counsel
IPWireless, Inc.
1250 Bayhill Drive, Suite 113
San Bruno, CA 94066

Larry A. Blosser
Blumenfeld & Cohen -Technology Law Group
Suite 300
1625 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Bruce P. Mehlman
Cisco Systems, Inc.
601 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Suite 520 North
Washington, D.C. 20005

Scott Blake Harris
Karen L. Gulick
Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis LLP
1200 18th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Steven C. Schaffer
Larry Miller
Schwartz, Woods & Miller
1350 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20036

Cecily A. Cohen
Nokia Inc.
Manager, Government and Industry Affairs
1101 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 910
Washington, D.C. 20036

C. Thomas Faulders
LLC International, Inc.
7925 Jones Branch Drive
McLean, VA 22102

Robert L. Hoggarth
Senior Vice President
Personal Communications Industry Association
500 Montgomery Street, Suite 700
Alexandria, VA 22314

Michael F. Altschul
Andrea Williams
Cellular Telecommunications & Internet
Association
1250 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20036

Robert S. Koppel
Vice President
Wireless Regulatory Affairs
WorldCom, Inc.
1133 19th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Philip L. Malet
Marc A. Paul
Steptoe & Johnson LLP
1330 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Andrew Kreig
President
The Wireless Communications Association International, Inc.
1140 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 810
Washington, D.C. 20036

John B. Lundberg
Pikes Peak Community College
5675 S. Academy Blvd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Stephen J. Rosen
Levin, Blaszak, Block & Boothby
2001 L Street, N.W., Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20036

Joseph A. Belisle
Leibowitz & Associates, P.A.
One Southeast Third Avenue, Suite 1450
Miami, FL 33131-1715

P. Anthony Zeiss
Central Piedmont Community College
P.O. Box 35009
Charlotte, NC 28235

Douglas Ernie
University of Minnesota
234 Morrill Hall
100 Church Street, S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455-0110

Anne Britt
Martin Community College
1161 Kehukee Park Road
Williamston, NC 27892

Samuel A. Oppenheim
California State University, Stanislaus
801 W. Monte Vista Avenue
Turlock, CA 95380-382

Thomas J. Berglin
Archdiocese of New York
1011 First Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Richard T. Heckman
Randolph Community College
P.O. Box 1009
Asheboro, NC 27204

Rogerts C. Cuevas
Miami-Dade County Public Schools
1450 Northeast Second Avenue,
Suite 552
Miami, FL 33132

Lawrence H. Williams
ICO Global Communications
Services, Inc.
1101 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 250
Washington, D.C. 20036

Donald P. Altieri
President
South Piedmont Community College
680 Hwy. 74 West
P.O. Box 126
Polkton, NC 28135

Anthony Tanzi
ACTUA
152 West Zandale Drive
Suite 200
Lexington, KY 40503

Donald C. Brittingham
Director - Spectrum Policy
Verizon Wireless
1300 I Street, N.W., Suite 400W
Washington, D.C. 20005

Michael R. Gardner
Washington Counsel for UWCC
The Law Offices of Michael R. Gardner, P.C.
1150 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.,
Suite 710
Washington, D.C. 20036

Derek R. Khlopin
Telecommunications Industry Association
1300 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Suite 350
Washington, D.C. 20004

Patrick Gossman
Wayne State University
Community Television Network, Inc.
77 W. Canfield
Detroit, MI 48201

Peter Shields
Wiley, Rein & Fielding
1776 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Darrell Page
Bladen Community College
P.O. Box 266
Dublin, N.C. 28332-0266

Howard J. Symons
Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky
and Popeo, P.C.
701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20004

Chairman Michael K. Powell*
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room 8-B201
Washington, D.C. 20554

Marsha J. MacBride*
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Chairman
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Susan M. Eid*
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Chairman
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Peter A. Tenhula*
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Chairman
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Commissioner Gloria Tristani*
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room 8-C302
Washington, D.C. 20554

William J. Friedman*
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Commissioner Gloria Tristani
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Adam D. Krinsky*
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Commissioner Gloria Tristani
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Commissioner Susan Ness*
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room 8-B115
Washington, D.C. 20554

Mark D. Schneider*
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Commissioner Susan Ness
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

David Goodfriend*
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Commissioner Susan Ness
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth*
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room 8-A302
Washington, D.C. 20554

Bryan N. Tramont*
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Thomas J. Sugrue*
Federal Communications Commission
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room 3-C252
Washington, D.C. 20554

Diane J. Cornell*
Federal Communications Commission
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room 3-C220
Washington, D.C. 20554

Thomas P. Stanley*
Federal Communications Commission
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room 3-C460
Washington, D.C. 20554

Charlie Rush*
Federal Communications Commission
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Julius Knapp*
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Engineering and Technology
The Portals
445 12th Street, S.W., #7A-361
Washington, D.C. 20554

Geraldine Matise*
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Engineering and Technology
The Portals
445 12th Street, S.W., #7A-361
Washington, D.C. 20554

Charles Dziedzic*
Federal Communications Commission
Mass Media Bureau
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room 2-A864
Washington, D.C. 20554

Brad Lerner*
Federal Communications Commission
Mass Media Bureau
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Sharon Bertelsen*
Federal Communications Commission
Mass Media Bureau
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room 2-A866
Washington, D.C. 20554

Richard Engelman*
Federal Communications Commission
International Bureau
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

_____/s/_____
Yvette Graves

*Via Hand Delivery