DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

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

FCC MAIL ROOM

2001 OCT -9 A 11: 14

RECEIVED

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Flexibility for Delivery of Communications by Mobile Satellite Service Providers in the 2 GHz Band, the L-Band, and the 1.6/2.4 GHz Band	)	IB Docket No. 01-185
	)	
Amendment of Section 2.106 of the Commission's Rules to Allocate Spectrum at 2 GHz for Use by the Mobile Satellite Service	)	ET Docket No. 95-18

ORDER EXTENDING COMMENT PERIOD

Adopted: October 4, 2001 **Released: October 4, 2001**

Comment Date: October 19, 2001
Reply Comment Date: November 5, 2001

By the Chief, Planning & Negotiations Division, International Bureau:

1. On September 25, 2001, Cellular Telephone & Internet Association (CTIA) filed a motion, pursuant to Section 1.46 of the Commission's rules, to extend the period for filing comments and reply comments to the Notice of Proposed Rule Making in the above-captioned proceeding.[1] The motion requests a two-week extension of time – from October 11, 2001, to October 25, 2001 – in which to submit comments in the above-captioned proceeding.[2] For the reasons discussed below, we grant CTIA's request and extend the comment period to October 19, 2001. In addition, we extend the reply comment period from October 25, 2001 to November 5, 2001.

---

[1] Flexibility for Delivery of Communications by Mobile Satellite Service Providers in the 2 GHz band, the L-Band, and the 1.6/2.4 GHz Band, IB Docket No. 01-185, *Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, FCC 01-225 (rel. Aug. 20, 2001). CTIA concurrently requested a ten-day extension of time to file comments in another proceeding, the due date of which currently is also October 11, 2001. 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, *Memorandum Opinion and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 01-224 (rel. Aug. 20, 2001).

[2] See CTIA, Request for Extension of Time, filed September 25, 2001.

2. CTIA requests an extension of time to allow its member wireless carriers more time to address the issues raised in this docket following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. CTIA contends that wireless carriers across the nation were forced to reorder their priorities in order to respond to the terrorist attacks of September 11. According to CTIA, these activities have made it difficult for its members to devote the time and personnel required to prepare comments in this proceeding. Finally, CTIA states that grant of its request would be in the public interest because it would give commenters sufficient time in which to address the important issues raised in the rulemaking proceeding and would provide the Commission with a more complete record on which to base its decision.

3. The Commission's general policy is that extensions of time are not routinely granted. Nevertheless, we still consider and, in certain instances, grant limited requests for extensions of time when we find that the public interest would be best served, particularly when such an extension is likely to result in a more complete discussion of the matters pending before the Commission.

4. Given the extraordinary circumstances of the events of September 11 and CTIA's representations regarding the effects of these events on parties ability to draft comments and develop positions, we find that a moderate extension of time is appropriate. However, we are not persuaded that the full extension requested is necessary to address CTIA's concerns. Accordingly, we find that a more moderate extension of time appropriately balances the interests of the Commission in obtaining adequate comment while not unnecessarily delaying the resolution of the proceeding. Therefore, we will extend the comment date from October 11, 2001, to October 19, 2001, and the reply comment date from October 25, 2001, to November 5, 2001.

5. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that pursuant to Section 1.46 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.46, the request of Cellular Telephone & Internet Association to extend the deadline for filing comments and reply comments in this proceeding, filed September 25, 2001, is GRANTED to the extent indicated.

6. This actions is taken under delegated authority pursuant to Sections 0.51 and 0.261 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R . §§ 0.51, 0.261.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Richard B. Engelman

Chief, Planning & Negotiations Division
International Bureau