

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of)	
)	
Flexibility for Delivery of Communications)	IB Docket No. 01-185
By Mobile Satellite Service Providers in)	
The 2 GHz Band, the L-Band and the)	
1.6/2.4 GHz Bands)	
)	
Review of the Spectrum Sharing Plan)	IB Docket No. 02-364
Among Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit)	
Mobile Satellite Service Systems in the)	
1.6/2.4 GHz Bands)	
_____)	

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to Section 1.46 of the Commission's Rules (47 C.F.R. § 1.46), Globalstar, L.P. ("GLP") requests a two-month extension of the current dates for filing comments and reply comments on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPRM") in IB Docket No. 02-364.¹

The new filing dates would be September 8, 2003 for comments and September 29, 2003 for reply comments.

Two significant events that occurred after release of the NPRM on February 10, 2003 and that impact the issues raised in the NPRM warrant an extension.

¹ See Report and Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 03-15 (released Feb. 10, 2003), published at 68 Fed. Reg. 33666 (June 5, 2003).

First, on March 3, 2003, GLP filed an Emergency Application for Review and Request for Stay of the International Bureau's Memorandum Opinion and Order, DA 03-328 (released Jan. 30, 2003), which found that GLP had not met the first implementation milestone for its 2 GHz MSS system and canceled GLP's 2 GHz MSS licenses. Both GLP's pleadings remain pending. On the other hand, the Commission has found that Iridium LLC met the first implementation milestone for its 2 GHz MSS system (Public Notice, Report No. SAT-00135, DA 03-386, Feb. 10, 2003). Moreover, in several orders issued on June 24, 2003, the Commission assigned additional spectrum at 2 GHz to the remaining four 2 GHz MSS licensees, providing a total of 10 MHz for each of the four licensees, including Iridium LLC (see Iridium 2 GHz LLC, DA 03-2075, released June 24, 2003).

In the NPRM, the Commission seeks to determine whether to revise the nine-year-old Big LEO band plan and to assign more or less spectrum to each of the remaining Big LEO MSS systems, Globalstar and Iridium, or whether some Big LEO spectrum should be reallocated to another service. The amount of spectrum that the Iridium and Globalstar systems can access for the long-term future is a crucial factor in assessing whether the Big LEO spectrum assignments should be reconsidered. The Commission's conclusion must necessarily be affected significantly by the amount of second generation spectrum, if any, that is available to Globalstar in the 2 GHz MSS band.

Second, on April 25, 2003, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware approved an investment transaction pursuant to which GLP's assets will

be transferred to New Globalstar Corporation, a Delaware company to be controlled by ICO Global Communications (Holdings) Limited. New Globalstar has filed applications for Commission approval of the proposed transfer/assignment of assets, including the Big LEO MSS license. The comment cycle on these applications ends on July 24, 2003 (see Public Notice, DA 03-1932, June 12, 2003).

The proposed new owners of the Globalstar system have a very strong interest in the outcome of IB Docket No. 02-364. However, their interests cannot be taken into account in this proceeding until the applications for transfer/assignment of the Globalstar assets have been approved by the Commission.

GLP urges the Commission to delay taking comments in IB Docket No. 02-364 until both these proceedings have been resolved. If the Commission does not delay this proceeding, the record will not accurately reflect the ultimate requirements of the Globalstar system.

In addition, GLP is requesting an additional week (a total of three weeks) for filing reply comments. The Commission has asked for substantial technical information in response to the NPRM. GLP intends to submit such technical information and assumes that Iridium will do so as well. Additional time for filing reply comments is warranted for review and preparation of replies to address such technical information.

The extensions requested herein will provide time for certain factual circumstances to be resolved before comments are filed, thereby allowing all interested parties an opportunity to prepare comments based on the circumstances

that are likely to obtain when second-generation MSS systems are launched in the future. This extension will, therefore, serve the public interest by improving the quality of the record before the Commission on the issues raised in IB Docket No. 02-364.

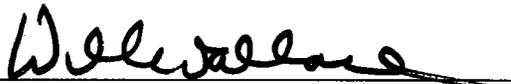
Accordingly, GLP requests that the Commission extend the comment and reply comment filing dates as set forth above, to September 8, 2003, and September 29, 2003, respectively.

Respectfully submitted,

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