



October 27, 2004

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Attention: Marlene Dortch

Re: WT Docket No. 01-90, ET Docket No. 98-95

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Satellite Industry Association (“SIA”)¹ hereby comments on the letter, dated September 2, 2004, that was filed by the Johns Hopkins University/Applied Physics Lab (“JHU/APL”) in the above-referenced proceeding. As stated in the letter, JHU/APL participates with SIA in a joint committee that is investigating interference issues previously raised by the SIA. In particular, SIA has raised the possibility that if Dedicated Short Range Communications (“DSRC”) stations were to operate in the 5850-5925 MHz band, they could be subject to interference from Fixed Satellite Service (“FSS”) earth stations that are licensed on a primary basis both in that band and in the adjacent 5925-6425 MHz band. In its Report and Order in the above-referenced proceeding, the Commission deferred consideration of these issues based on the fact that there were ongoing technical studies and industry discussions.²

SIA has the following comments on JHU/APL’s letter:

- 1.) We agree with JHU/APL that there is a potential for interference to DSRC stations from in-band and adjacent band FSS earth stations.
- 2.) We also agree that the way to address the potential in-band interference issue, insofar as FSS earth stations that already have been licensed are concerned, is to:
 - a) define interference contours for the FSS stations; and
 - b) require applicants for road side units within these zones to make detailed interference assessments. It should be incumbent on applicants for road side units within the interference

¹ SIA Executive Members include: The Boeing Company; Globalstar LLC; Hughes Network Systems, Inc.; ICO Global Communications; Intelsat; Iridium Satellite LLC, Lockheed Martin Corp.; Loral Space & Communications Ltd.; Mobile Satellite Ventures LP; Northrop Grumman Corporation; PanAmSat Corporation; SES Americom, Inc., and Verestar Inc. SIA’s Associate Members include Eutelsat, Inmarsat, and New Skies Satellites Inc.

² *Amendment of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Dedicated Short-Range Communication Services in the 5.850-5.925 GHz Band (5.9 GHz Band)*, Report and Order, FCC 03-324, ¶¶ 79-80 (Feb. 10, 2004).

zones to employ interference mitigation techniques enabling them to share with FSS earth stations. SIA continues to cooperate with the DSRC Standards Writing Group in the unofficial joint industry committee in an effort to develop recommendations for the FCC in a timely manner. Among other things, the unofficial committee is in the process of finalizing the “interference contours” for each of the limited number of existing in-band FSS sites. SIA also will continue to explore within the unofficial committee ways for in-band FSS earth stations at new sites to co-exist with DSRC stations.

- 3.) We recommend that the FCC not license DSRC stations until the parties complete the “interference contours” for in-band cases. If the FCC were to proceed with the licensing of DSRC stations prior to the completion of the industry efforts, then it should put DSRC licensees on notice that their service may be degraded by in-band interference, which might affect their performance expectations.
- 4.) To preserve the flexibility and versatility of the C-band service, it is crucial that FSS earth stations transmitting on standard C-band frequencies (*i.e.*, 5925-6425 MHz), which are heavily used, can continue to be deployed where they are needed, unencumbered by the possible proliferation of DSRC stations. Accordingly, DSRC stations should be designed to be compatible with the out-of-band emission levels for FSS earth station established by the FCC in §25.202 of its rules. This compatibility will ensure that the DSRC service will not be adversely affected by over-sensitivity toward adjacent band FSS earth stations.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David A. Cavossa", is centered below the closing. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David A. Cavossa
Executive Director
Satellite Industry Association
225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 600
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 739-8358