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February 5, 2002

VIA FACSIMILE

Mr. James R. Burtle, Chief
Experimental Licensing Branch
Office of Engineering and Technology
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Room 7-A267
Washington, DC 20054

**RE: Request for Expedited Action on Northrop Grumman Corporation's Request
For a 180-day Extension of the Grant of Special Temporary Authority under
Call Sign WB9XLQ, Filed January 31, 2002**

Dear Mr. Burtle:

On January 31, 2002, Northrop Grumman Corporation ("NGC") filed a request for a 180-day extension of the Commission's grant of Special Temporary Authorization ("STA") under Call Sign WB9XLQ (File No. 0268-EX-ST-2001) to operate the mobile-ground and airborne communications systems in the area around Hagerstown, Maryland. NGC asks your assistance to help ensure that NGC is authorized to transmit from the experimental station's facilities in order to continue its critical performance testing after the current grant of STA expires on February 9, 2002. According, NGC respectfully requests expedited action on the STA extension request on or before February 8, 2002.

If you have any questions regarding the foregoing, please do not hesitate to call me at (202) 371-6332.

Respectfully,



John M. R. Kueuer
Attorney for Northrop Grumman Corporation