

100'd 5.22-97

100'd 5.22-97

19 May 1997

Mr. Carl Huie,
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
Office of Engineering and Technology/New Technology Development Division
Experimental Licensing Branch
2000 M Street, NW / Suite 230
Washington, DC 20554
Phone: 202-418-2430, Fax: 202-418-1918

RE: Request for Modification to BATSAT Experimental Radio Service License

Mr. Huie,

Orbital (formerly known as "Orbital Sciences Corporation") is submitting the following modification to you for processing under Part 5 of the Commission Rules. Orbital had previously (April 8, 1997) been authorized by the FCC to use and operate BATSAT's MICROSTAR (LEO) radio transmitting facility call sign "WA2XGO" file number "5486-EX-PL-96" pursuant to Orbital's request for Experimental Radio Services License dated 01 October 1996.

More recently, Orbital's BATSAT Program completed its final design review during which it was determined that a cost effective mission trade, which involves leveraging off of a Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS) product, could better serve the program's needs. Therefore, Orbital is requesting a modification to its original license to allow for an increase in BATSAT's uplink data rate (from 9.6 kbps up to a maximum of 57.6 kbps) with a commensurate increase in the uplink transmitter power (from 10 Watts up to a maximum of 20 Watts). A revised earth-to-space telecommand link analysis calculation is enclosed (see Exhibit No. 2).

The attached is an advance copy of the request for modification (Form 442) which Orbital has forwarded (via FEDEX, along with the \$45.00 processing fee) to the FCC Pittsburgh office.

Given that Orbital is planning to launch BATSAT in mid-September of this year, we thank you again for your assistance in helping Orbital with this matter. Please direct comments or questions concerning this application to me at 703-406-5726 or huber.ron@orbital.com (fax 703-435-6796).

Sincerely,

Ron Huber

Ron Huber
BATSAT Ground Station Manager (Small Satellite Division)

Enclosure: as stated