

November 15, 2001

VIA BERRY BEST

Federal Communications Commission
c/o Mellon Bank
Three Mellon Bank Center
525 William Penn Way
27th Floor, Room 153-2713
Pittsburgh, PA 15259-0001
Attn: Wholesale Lockbox Shift Supervisor

Re: FCC ELS Form 442 File No. 0258-EX-PL-2001
Form 442 Confirmation Number EL11722
Experimental Application for Transportable VSAT Network

Dear Sir or Madam:

On behalf of Raytheon Company – Imagery and Geospatial Systems Division, we hereby submit two copies of an experimental application for a transportable VSAT network, which was filed electronically with the Commission today. Raytheon respectfully requests **expedited processing** of this application for experimental authority.

As noted in the application, Raytheon proposes to test and demonstrate the use of transportable Ku-band VSAT earth stations to provide communications services primarily in the event of communications outages caused by disaster or other reasons. The use of transportable Ku-band earth stations in VSAT configuration for service restoration purposes presents an important area of research and experimentation that will afford substantial public benefits if demonstrated to be viable. Recent events have shown that terrestrial communications networks are vulnerable to disasters and other unexpected occurrences. The deployment of transportable VSAT terminals on an as-needed basis would permit the rapid restoration of communications service in the event of an outage at commercial, government, military or other installations. For these reasons, Raytheon believes there is an urgent need to test and demonstrate this equipment in order to explore its utility and commercial viability, and requests that the Commission grant this application as soon as possible.

As required by the Office of Engineering & Technology's fee filing guide, we enclose a Form 159 and a check in the amount of \$50.00 to cover the appropriate FCC filing fee.

If any questions should arise concerning this application, kindly communicate with the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond G. Bender, Jr.
Counsel for Raytheon Company

Enclosures

cc: Carl Huie
Frank Peace
Sylvia Lam