



**U.S. Department of Justice**

National Security Division

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*Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

November 17, 2008

*By E-File*

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St. SW, Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: AST Telecom, LLC  
ISP-PDR-20080401-00006

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Department of Justice ("DOJ"), including the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), with the concurrence of the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") (collectively, the "Agencies"), officially withdraws its request to defer action on the above-referenced petition for declaratory ruling allowing indirect foreign ownership of AST in excess of 25% for the license won in Auction No. 73. Based on the information provided to the Agencies by the Applicants and analysis by the Agencies of potential national security, law enforcement and public safety issues, the Agencies hereby notify the Commission that they have no objection to the application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

/s/ JOANNE P. ONGMAN  
Joanne P. Ongman  
Attorney  
National Security Division  
U.S. Department of Justice

cc: Howard S. Shapiro  
George Li  
David Krech  
Francis Gutierrez

Douglas Klein  
Douglas Daniels  
Lisa Vogt  
Richard Sofield