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February 25, 1999

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

File No: ITC-TAO-19980306-00918
Granted 3/18/99
Expires: 9/14/99

Re: COLUMBUS-III STA EXTENSION
TAO 2627

Dear Ms. Salas:

AT&T Corp. ("AT&T"); MCI International ("MCI"); Pacific Gateway Exchange (Bermuda) Limited ("PGE"); The St. Thomas and San Juan Telephone Company, Inc. ("STSJ"); STAR Telecommunications, Inc. ("STAR"); Startec Global Communications, Inc. ("STARTEC"); Telefonica Larga Distancia de Puerto Rico, Inc. ("TLDI"); Teleglobe USA Inc. ("TELEGLOBE"); IDB Worldcom Services, Inc. ("WORLDCOM"); and WorldxChange Communications ("WORLDXCHANGE"), hereinafter the "Joint Applicants,"¹ hereby request a further extension of the above-identified STA, presently set to expire March 1, 1999.

The underlying Joint Application for Section 214 Authorization (ITC 98-347) and a Joint Application for a cable landing license (SCL 98-006) were filed contemporaneously. Those Joint Applications were placed on Public Notice on June 17, 1998. Comments were filed on July 15, 1998. Comments in Opposition were filed August 6, 1998. A reply was filed on August 13. It is unlikely that the Commission will rule on the underlying Section 214 Application prior to March 1, 1999. Construction activities intended to meet the September 1999 ready-for-customer-service date are continuing under the STA.

¹ These are the Joint Applicants in the underlying Section 214 and cable landing license applications. Identifying information on all of them is contained therein and required certifications are on file.

intended to meet the September 1999 ready-for-customer-service date are continuing under the STA.

Please return to me a Grant Stamped copy of this letter showing an expiration date either 150 days thereafter or such other expiration date as will allow the Commission to rule on the underlying Section 214 Application prior thereto.

Very truly yours,



David T. Matsushima

Copies to:

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