

Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

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FCC MAIL SECTION

Applications of  
Satellite CD Radio, Inc. )  
for Authorization of a )  
Digital Audio Radio Service )  
Satellite System )

File Nos. 49/50-DSS-P/LA-90

58/59-DSS-AMEND-90

Comments of Space Systems/Loral  
In Support of the Digital Audio Radio  
Satellite System Technical Feasibility

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Domestic Facilities Division  
Satellite Radio Branch

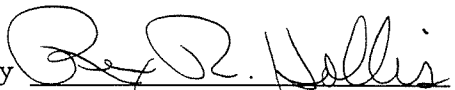
Loral, a major aerospace and electronics manufacturer, recently acquired Ford Aerospace, thereby strengthening its position in aerospace electronics and systems. Space Systems/Loral (SS/L), formerly Space Systems Division of Ford Aerospace, has constructed over 80 satellites during the past 25 years. These spacecraft and satellite components have accumulated hundreds of years of orbital life. Hence, SS/L's qualifications to comment on the referenced Digital Audio Radio Satellite System (DARSS) are a matter of public record.

Satellite CD Radio's proposed DAR Satellite System involves two high-power broadcasting satellites, launched into geostationary orbit in the second or third quarter of 1994. Each spacecraft will be capable of covering the CONUS with three beams. The beams would relay approximately 100 channels of digital audio programming to inexpensive mobile and portable radios. The spacecraft would receive the transmissions at Ka-band and downlink between 1470-1530 MHz. Assuming construction commences in 1991 and concludes in 1994, a budgetary estimate of \$150 million for construction of the two satellites is provided. The satellites are expected to last for approximately 12 years.

Based on its preliminary analysis and subject to detailed performance specifications, SS/L believes the referenced DARSS is feasible within the

general parameters described above. SS/L has built numerous space systems with a higher degree of technical complexity and cost. SS/L is capable of managing construction of the referenced DARSS, if approved by the FCC.

Respectively submitted,

By   
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Director, Policy and Planning  
SPACE SYSTEMS/LORAL

November 29, 1990

cc: Gerald Vaughn, Deputy Chief, Domestic Facilities Division  
Cecily Holiday, Chief, Satellite Radio Bureau  
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