

YUOK TRIBE

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June 1, 2001

Ms. Magalie Roman-Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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SEP 24 2001

FCC MAIL ROOM

Received

OCT 4 2001

Satellite Policy Division
FCC

Re: **Motient Services, Inc., and Mobile Satellite Ventures Subsidiary LLC**
Application of licenses and For Authority to Launch and Operate a Next
Generation Mobile Satellite Service System: Lead File No. SAT-ASG-
20010302-0017

Dear Ms. Roman Salas:

Please accept this letter as notification that the Yurok Tribe, pursuant to Public Notice dated March 19, 2001, supports the application by Motient Services, Inc., and Mobile Satellite Ventures Subsidiary LLC to launch and operate a next generation mobile satellite service system.

The Yurok Tribe is installing Motient's satellite dispatch service in various Tribal offices and vehicles, including the Tribal Department of Public Safety, Fisheries, Watershed Restoration, United Indian Health Services Health Clinic, and other Tribal offices. There is no telephone or other communications service available to residents or service providers on most of the Yurok Reservation. The Yurok Tribe intends to use the Motient system to provide communications on and off the Reservation in the event of an emergency as well as to provide inter- government communications, until such time as traditional telephone service is available.

The Yurok Reservation follows the narrow and winding Klamath River canyon approximately 45 miles, from the confluence of the Klamath and Trinity Rivers to the Pacific Ocean. The geography of the Reservation makes it extremely difficult for telephone service to be provided using existing wire-line and wireless technologies. The system described in the application would offer substantial benefit to the Residents of the Yurok Reservation by providing better communications coverage without the capital costs associated with a terrestrial based system.

For the reasons described above, the Yurok Tribe supports the Motient Services, Inc./Mobile Satellite Ventures Subsidiary LLC application before the FCC. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact John Miller, Yurok Tribe Planning & Community Development Department (707-444-0433).

Sincerely,



SUSAN MASTEN VICE CHAIRMAN

Chairperson
Yurok Tribe

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