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RECEIVED

JUL 31 1996

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

900 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022-4728

July 31, 1996

Mr. William F. Caton
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Mobile Communications Holdings Inc.
File Nos. 11-DSS-P-91(6); 18 DSS-P-91(18);
11-SAT-LA-95; 12-SAT-AMEND-95**

Received
AUG 02 1996
Satellite and
Radiocommunications Division
International Bureau

Dear Mr. Caton:

On behalf of Mobile Communications Holdings, Inc. (MCHI), I am transmitting herewith an original and four copies of a "Request for Extension of Time" with respect to the above-referenced Big LEO application.

Should there be any questions concerning this matter, kindly communicate with the undersigned.

Sincerely,


Jill Abeshouse Stern

Enclosures

RECEIVED

JUL 31 1996

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

In re Application of)
)
)
MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS)
HOLDINGS, INC.)
)
For Authority to Construct, Launch, and Operate)
ELLIPSO™ a Low Earth Orbit Satellite System)
to Provide Mobile Satellite Services in the)
1610-1626.5 MHz/2483.5-2500 MHz Bands)

File Nos. 11-DSS-P-91(6);
18-DSS-P-91(18);
11-SAT-LA-95;
12-SAT-AMEND-95

Received

AUG 02 1996

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Satellite and
Radiocommunications Division
International Bureau

Mobile Communications Holdings, Inc. ("MCHI"), by its attorneys, hereby requests a brief extension of the deadline for applicants in the Big LEO proceeding to demonstrate financial qualifications from August 26, 1996 until and including September 16, 1996. In support whereof, the following is shown.

1. MCHI's application for authority to construct, launch and operate the ELLIPSO™ low-Earth orbit mobile satellite system has been pending with the Commission since November 1990. On January 31, 1995, the International Bureau deferred MCHI's application until January 1996 for submission of a supplemental financial showing, while simultaneously granting the applications of several large companies. On March 2, 1995, MCHI filed a "Consolidated Application for Review and Request for Clarification" of the International Bureau's decisions by the full Commission. By Memorandum Opinion and Order released January 26, 1996, the International

Bureau granted an extension of "the deadline for applicants in the Big LEO proceeding that have not yet done so to demonstrate financial qualifications...until 60 days after the Commission releases an order disposing of MCHI's Consolidated Application for Review." On June 27, 1996, the Commission denied MCHI's Consolidated Application for Review,^{1/} triggering an August 26, 1996 deadline for demonstration of financial qualifications by parties that have not yet done so.

2. The August 26, 1996 filing deadline established by release of the Commission's June 27, 1996 Order occurs at the peak of the summer vacation period, during the week prior to the Labor Day holiday. Compliance with the deadline will impose a hardship on the parties. In particular, the late August deadline creates many practical inconveniences in securing corporate action, including, for example, Board approvals and officer signatures, from the applicants and their investors, which may be required to finalize financial documentation.

3. A brief extension of time, until and including September 16, 1996, will not harm any party. The current filing deadline was exclusively determined, as far as we are aware, by release of the Commission's decision and is not compelled for any stated substantive or procedural imperative.

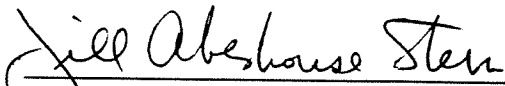
4. Counsel to AMSC, Constellation, Motorola and TRW have all indicated, respectively, that their clients have no objection to the requested extension of time. Counsel to Loral/Qualcomm Partnership was advised of MCHI's intention to seek an extension of time, but did not indicate LQP's position prior to the filing of this request.

^{1/} Memorandum Opinion and Order, FCC 96-279, released June 27, 1996.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the Commission grant a brief extension of time, until and including September 16, 1996, for the deferred Big LEO applicants to demonstrate financial qualifications.

Respectfully submitted,

MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS
HOLDINGS, INC.

By: 
Jill Abeshouse Stern

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Its Attorneys

July 31, 1996

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Felecia DeLoatch, do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was sent by first-class mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered, on this 31st day of July, 1996, to the following persons:

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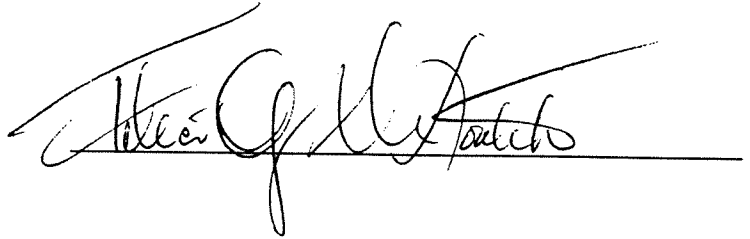
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