



S2211 SAT-LOA-19950712-00085
WB HOLDINGS 1, LLC
S2165

ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

January 31, 2003

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

BY HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Received

FEB 03 2003

Re: *Wildblue Communications, Inc. Policy Branch
Ka-Band GSO License at 73° W.L. International Bureau*
Call Sign S2165, IBFS File No. SAT-LOA-19970712-00085

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In May 1997, the Commission authorized Wildblue Communications, Inc. to launch and operate a geostationary satellite system using Ka-band spectrum at two orbital locations, 109.2° W.L. and 73° W.L.¹ In January 2001, the Commission further authorized Wildblue's use of inter-satellite link ("ISL") spectrum, and established a construction milestone requirement for each orbital location.² Last year, the Commission found that Wildblue had met its first milestone with respect to the 109.2° W.L. orbital location.³

The softening of the economy generally and the satellite broadband sector in particular over the past few years have led Wildblue to re-evaluate the business prospects for its licensed satellite system and, as a consequence, Wildblue has decided not to proceed with the build-out of its satellite at the 73° W.L. orbital location. Accordingly, Wildblue hereby surrenders its license, Call Sign S2165, for a Ka-band satellite at that slot. In addition, because there will no longer be a need for communications directly between two authorized orbital locations, Wildblue also hereby surrenders its authorization to use ISL spectrum.

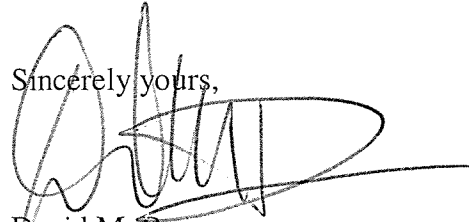
¹ See *KaStar Satellite Communications Corp.*, 13 FCC Rcd. 1366 (Int'l Bur. 1997). The Ka-band authorizations are now held by WB Holdings 1, LLC, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Wildblue. For the sake of simplicity, all of these predecessor and subsidiary entities will be referred to herein as Wildblue.

² See *WB Holdings 1 LLC*, 16 FCC Rcd. 2513 (Int'l Bur. 2001).

³ Public Notice, Rep. No. SPB-179, DA 02-1432 (rel. June 18, 2002).

Wildblue remains committed to developing its remaining Ka-band orbital location at 109.2° W.L. (Call Sign S2211) consistent with the milestones established in its authorization, and to bring advanced satellite broadband services to underserved and unserved areas of the United States. Hopefully the surrender of the 73° W.L. orbital location and ISL spectrum will enable the Commission to satisfy the needs of some other Ka-band system proponent.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DMB', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David M. Brown
Vice President and General Counsel

cc: Tom Tycz
Jennifer Gilsonan