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Via HAND DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: EchoStar Satellite L.L.C.
Relinquishment of Space Station Authorization
File Nos. 167-SAT-P/LA-95, 168-SAT-P/LA-95, 54-SAT-AMEND-96**

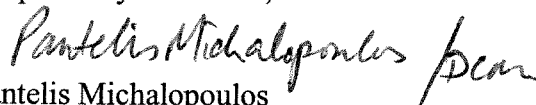
Dear Ms. Dortch,

EchoStar Satellite L.L.C. ("EchoStar") hereby relinquishes the above-captioned Ka-band space station authorization at the 83° W.L. orbital location. Telesat Canada's use of Ka-band frequencies at the 82° W.L. orbital slot has effectively precluded EchoStar from viably deploying its own Ka-band satellite at 83° W.L.

Telesat Canada has deployed Nimiq 2 to 82° W.L., a geostationary satellite that is authorized by Canada to operate on both Ku- and Ka-band frequencies. As Nimiq 2 is only one degree away from EchoStar's assigned orbital location at 83° W.L., EchoStar would have significant difficulty coordinating the use of its authorized Ka-band frequencies with Telesat Canada. As a result, EchoStar has decided that it is no longer viable to deploy a satellite at that location and is relinquishing its space station authorization accordingly.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


Pantelis Michalopoulos
Counsel for EchoStar Satellite L.L.C.

cc: Thomas S. Tycz, Chief, Satellite Division, IB
Louise Klees-Wallace, IB