



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

International Bureau

March 22, 2002

VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL

Pantelis Michalopoulos, Esq.  
Steptoe & Johnson, LLP  
1330 Connecticut Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Re: EchoStar Satellite Corporation, File Nos.  
167-SAT-P/LA-95; 168-SAT-P/LA-95; 54 SAT  
AMEND-96.

Dear Mr. Michalopoulos:

On January 28, 2002, the Satellite and Radiocommunication Division requested certain information concerning the milestone obligations set forth in EchoStar Satellite Corporation's (EchoStar) Ka-band authorization. Specifically, we requested a copy of an executed contract verifying that construction has commenced and that EchoStar's satellite will be built in the time frame specified in EchoStar's license. On February 8, 2002, EchoStar submitted a copy version of a browser-printed contract that was submitted to the Security Exchange Commission as an attachment to EchoStar's Form 10-Q filing. In addition, EchoStar redacted certain information that it stated was confidential and that included financing terms and sensitive technical information.

The information submitted by EchoStar on February 8, 2002, is not sufficient to demonstrate that EchoStar has complied with the construction implementation milestone of its license. Please submit a complete, unredacted copy of the original contract with appropriate signatures verifying that EchoStar has commenced construction and that EchoStar's satellite will be built within the time frames specified in EchoStar's license. This information must be filed with the Commission's Secretary by March 29, 2002, with a hand delivered courtesy copy to Alyssa Roberts of my staff. Failure to provide this information by this date shall render EchoStar's Ka-band license null and void. Please contact Alyssa Roberts at (202) 418-7276 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer M. Gilson".

Jennifer M. Gilson  
Chief  
Satellite Policy Branch

cc: David K. Moskowitz  
David R. Goodfriend