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

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Application of	)	
MOTOROLA SATELLITE SYSTEMS, INC.	)	File Nos. 157-SAT-P/LA-96 (72)
	)	& 29-SAT-AMEND-97
For Authority to Construct, Launch	)	
and Operate a Non-Geostationary Orbit	)	
Satellite System in the	)	
Fixed-Satellite Service	)	

REPLY OF GE AMERICAN COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

GE American Communications, Inc. ("GE Americom"), by its attorneys and pursuant to Section 25.154 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 25.154, hereby submits this reply regarding the above-captioned application of Motorola Satellite Systems, Inc. ("Motorola") for the M-Star non-geostationary satellite system ("M-Star Application").

In its Petition to Deny, GE Americom demonstrated that grant of the M-Star Application could preclude efficient use of the 40 GHz band for fixed satellite services. Motorola asserted in its application that sharing between its proposed system and geostationary FSS operations in the 40 GHz band would be theoretically possible, but only if the number of geostationary and nongeostationary licensees was limited. M-Star Application at 70. GE Americom observed that the filing window for FSS applications in the 40 GHz band remained open, making it premature to make assumptions about how many qualified applicants would

request authority for FSS operations in the band. GE Americom Petition to Deny at 3.

Subsequent events have borne out GE Americom's concerns that demand for FSS spectrum in the 40 GHz band would be high. GE Americom itself filed for a global geostationary satellite system to operate in the 40 GHz band prior to closing of the filing window. Hughes and TRW had previously filed applications. Recent press reports indicate that additional applications were filed last week by Hughes for two new systems, as well as by Loral, Orbital Sciences Corp., Lockheed Martin, and Teledesic.

In its response to Petitions to Deny, Motorola briefly acknowledged GE Americom's concern that resolution of sharing issues would depend heavily on the number of applications filed for the 40 GHz band, and agreed that further discussions will be needed after the filing window closes. Motorola Consolidated Opposition at 20 n.47. However, Motorola made no suggestions regarding how its sharing proposal could be enhanced to accommodate multiple NGSO and GSO systems.

Thus, the Commission is left with no record to support Motorola's claim that authorization of the M-Star system would be consistent with efficient use of the 40 GHz band. Specifically, Motorola has not refuted GE Americom's demonstration that authorization of geostationary systems in the 40 GHz band will permit greater re-use of spectrum and the licensing of multiple competitors. GE Americom Petition at 3. GE Americom recognizes that Motorola is seeking to

develop appropriate sharing procedures to allow M-Star to co-exist with geostationary systems. We will cooperate fully in the development of such procedures. However, Motorola has not demonstrated that its proposals to date are feasible.

Absent a showing that M-Star can successfully share with multiple competing FSS systems, Motorola's application for the M-Star system should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

GE AMERICAN COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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September 30, 1997

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Reply of GE American Communications, Inc. were served by hand delivery this 30th day of September, 1997 to:

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