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

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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In the Matter of )  
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Application of )  
MOTOROLA SATELLITE SYSTEMS, INC. )  
 )  
For Authority to Construct, Launch )  
and Operate a Non-Geostationary Orbit )  
Satellite System in the )  
Fixed-Satellite Service )

File Nos. 157-SAT-P/LA-96 (72)  
& 29-SAT-AMEND-97

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.

By: 

Philip V. Otero  
Senior Vice President and  
General Counsel  
GE American Communications, Inc.  
Four Research Way  
Princeton, NJ 08540

Peter A. Rohrbach  
Karis A. Hastings  
Hogan & Hartson L.L.P.  
555 Thirteenth Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004  
(202) 637-5600

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:

Regina Keeney  
Chief, International Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 830  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Ruth Milkman  
Deputy Chief, International Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 821  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Thomas S. Tycz  
Chief, Satellite and  
Radiocommunications Division  
International Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 520  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Fern Jarmulnek  
Chief, Satellite Policy Branch  
Satellite and Radiocommunications  
Division  
International Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 518  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Mr. Harold Ng  
Engineering Advisor, Satellite and  
Radiocommunications Division  
International Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 801  
Washington, D.C. 20554

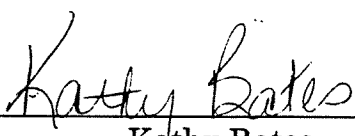
Virginia Marshall  
Attorney Advisor  
International Bureau - Satellite  
Federal Communications Commission  
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 515  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Kathleen Campbell  
Satellite and Radiocommunications  
Division  
Federal Communications Commission  
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 593  
Washington, D.C. 20554

and by first class mail, postage prepaid to:

Michael D. Kennedy  
Barry Lamberman  
Motorola, Inc.  
1350 I Street, N.W., Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Philip L. Malet  
Pantelis Michalopoulos  
Brent H. Weingardt  
1330 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Bates