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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

July 16, 2003

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BY HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

FILE STAMP COPY

**Re: Withdrawal of V/Ku-Band Applications
IBFS File Nos. SAT-LOA-19970925-00110/118**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

SES AMERICOM, Inc. ("SES AMERICOM"), by its attorneys, hereby withdraws the above-referenced applications for authority to launch and operate a system of eleven V/Ku-band satellites at nine orbital locations, filed September 27, 1997, File Nos. SAT-LOA-19970925-00110/118 (the "Applications"). The Applications were submitted in response to the announcement of a processing round in 1997. However, the Commission never placed the Applications on public notice, and the Applications have been held in abeyance pending resolution of a related rulemaking proceeding.¹ Given the time that has elapsed since the filing of the Applications, and intervening changes in circumstances, SES AMERICOM no longer intends to pursue them. Accordingly, SES AMERICOM hereby withdraws the above-referenced Applications.

Pursuant to Section 8(d)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 158(d)(2), SES AMERICOM also requests a waiver and


¹ See Allocation and Designation of Spectrum for Fixed-Satellite Services in the 37.5-38.5 GHz, 40.5-41.5 GHz, and 48.2-50.2 GHz Frequency Bands; Allocation of Spectrum to Upgrade Fixed and Mobile Allocations in the 40.5-42.5 GHz Frequency Band; Allocation of Spectrum in the 46.9-47.0 GHz Frequency Band for Wireless Services; and Allocation of Spectrum in the 37.0-38.0 GHz and 40.0-40.5 GHz for Government Operations, *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, IB Docket No. 97-95, 16 FCC Rcd 12244 (2001).

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refund of the \$765,405 application processing fee that was paid in connection with the V-band Applications. SES AMERICOM will be separately submitting a filing in support of its fee refund request.

Please address any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter A. Rohrbach", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter A. Rohrbach
Counsel for SES AMERICOM, Inc.

ccs: Thomas S. Tycz
Cassandra Thomas
Fern Jarmulnek
Jennifer Gilsenan
Robert Nelson
Diane Garfield
Andrew S. Fishel