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Spectrum Astro, Inc. Policy Branch
1440 N. Fiesta Blvd. International Bureau
Gilbert, AZ 85233
(480) 892-8200

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MAR 12 2004

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

March 11, 2004

Via Hand Delivery

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch

Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Spectrum Astro, Inc.
Withdrawal of V-band Application
File No. SAT-LOA-19970926-00157
File No. SAT-LOA-19970926-00158
File No. SAT-LOA-19970926-00159
File No. SAT-LOA-19970926-00160
File No. SAT-LOA-19970926-00162**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Spectrum Astro, Inc. ("Spectrum Astro") hereby withdraws the above-captioned application to launch and operate five geostationary fixed satellite service ("GSO FSS") satellites in the 40/50 GHz bands ("V-band"). This application has not yet been placed on Public Notice.¹

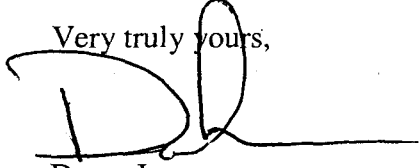
Recent fundamental changes in the Commission's satellite licensing rules make it infeasible for Spectrum Astro to continue to prosecute this application and to implement the system proposed therein.²

¹ Dismissal of an application is to be granted as a matter of right if the request is made prior to final Commission action. 47 C.F.R. § 25.152(a). Under separate cover, Spectrum Astro is submitting a request for a refund of the filing fee associated with its above-captioned application. See Letter from Bruce D. Jacobs, Counsel for Spectrum Astro, Inc., to Mr. Andrew S. Fishel, Managing Director, FCC (March 12, 2004).

² *Amendment of the Commission's Space Station Licensing Rules and Policies, First Report and Order*, IB Docket No. 02-34, FCC 03-102 (rel. May 19, 2003) ("SSLR Order").

Please direct any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Daren Iverson', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large 'D' and a long, sweeping tail.

Daren Iverson
Vice President, Contracts and Finance,
Chief Financial Officer

cc: Jennifer Gilsonan
Andrea Kelly