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FILED/ACCEPTED

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Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary

January 10, 2008

## **BY HAND DELIVERY**

Marlene H. Dortch Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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Re: *Ex Parte Presentation File Nos. SAT-LOI-20050312-00062 and -00063* 

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 9 and 10, 2008, Stacy Fuller of The DIRECTV Group, Inc. ("DIRECTV") spoke by telephone with Renée Crittendon, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Adelstein; Angela Giancarlo, Legal Advisor Commissioner McDowell; and Aaron Goldberger, Legal Advisor to Chairman Martin, to discuss DIRECTV's pending Application for Review of the International Bureau's grant of authority to Spectrum Five, LLC ("Spectrum Five") to serve the U.S. market from foreign-licensed "tweener" satellites.

In each call, Ms. Fuller expressed DIRECTV's ongoing concern that Spectrum Five's proposed operations would disrupt DBS service received by millions of Americans. Although the International Bureau authorized Spectrum Five to operate on a non-interference basis in the absence of coordination with existing DBS operators, Spectrum Five has neither submitted the characteristics for a proposed non-interfering system nor *initiated* – much less completed – coordination with DIRECTV. Indeed, in the nearly three years since filing its applications, Spectrum Five has yet to even call DIRECTV to discuss coordination. Accordingly, neither DIRECTV nor the Commission has any basis upon which to determine whether Spectrum Five has devised an alternative method of operation that would not cause harmful interference to existing DBS services.

Ms. Fuller also argued that, if the Commission were to deny DIRECTV's Application for Review, it should at a minimum require Spectrum Five to demonstrate its ability to comply with the terms of its license. Specifically, Spectrum Five should be

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Marlene H. Dortch January 10, 2008 Page 2 of 2

required to submit to the Commission for review and comment by interested parties a technical showing of how its satellite(s) would operate on a non-interference basis or in accord with any coordination agreements reached. Such a showing should be submitted within two years of licensing (*i.e.*, by November 29, 2008) so that the Commission and all interested parties have an opportunity to evaluate Spectrum Five's proposed operations well before construction of the satellite(s) has reached a point where any necessary design revisions could be claimed to impose an undue economic burden.

Sincerely yours,

Welliam M. Hitchne

William M. Wiltshire Counsel for The DIRECTV Group, Inc.

cc: Angela Giancarlo Renée Crittendon Aaron Goldberger Helen Domenici Robert Nelson

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