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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

FEB 16 1990

IN REPLY REFER TO:

61330

GTE Spacenet Corporation
1700 Old Meadow Road
McLean, Virginia 22102

Attention: Terri B. Natoli

Reference: Request for an Extension of Launch Deadline for
GSTAR IV (File No. 18-DSS-MLA-90)

Dear Ms. Natoli:

This is in response to GTE Spacenet Corporation's (GTE Spacenet's) letter of February 6, 1990, as supplemented on February 16, 1990, requesting an extension of time in which to launch the GSTAR IV satellite. This satellite is currently required be launched by February 1990. See GTE Spacenet Corporation, 3 FCC Rcd 6988 (1988). However, you indicate that testing of GSTAR IV in August 1989 revealed some hardware deficiencies. These deficiencies required replacement of certain pieces of flight hardware, which involved long-lead procurement times. You indicate that final testing will be completed in mid-April and that GTE Spacenet's launch services contract with Arianespace provides that the satellite will be launched between June 1990 and December 1990. You therefore request an extension of GSTAR IV's required launch date through December 1990.

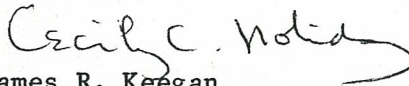
Because the delay in GSTAR IV's launch is due to circumstances beyond GTE Spacenet's control, we grant your request. Therefore, pursuant to Section 0.291 of the Commission's rules on delegations of authority, the launch schedule for the GSTAR IV satellite is modified as follows:

Launch no
Later Than

GSTAR IV

December 1990

Sincerely,


for James R. Keegan
Chief, Domestic Facilities Division
Common Carrier Bureau