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July 24, 1991

Ms. Cecily C. Holiday
Chief, Satellite Radio Branch
Federal Communications Commission
2025 M Street, N.W., Room 6324
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Launch of ASC-2 Satellite and Name Change
File No: 34-DSS-ML-90

Dear Ms. Holiday:

On Friday, April 12, 1991 the ASC-2 satellite was successfully launched into geostationary orbit aboard a Delta launch vehicle.¹ The satellite arrived at its assigned location of 101°W.L. on May 8, 1991 where it underwent thorough testing. During testing, data indicated that three Ku-Band transponders were not functioning properly. These transponders failed to achieve successful operation because their output power was substantially below the manufacturer's specifications. GE Astro has been running extensive tests on these transponders and submitting data to its suppliers for analysis to determine possible remedies. Because it is unlikely that the affected transponders will be usable, we have contacted the insurance community, notifying them of a potential claim. All other transponders are functioning properly and as of June 18, 1991, were ready for operation.

Now that the satellite has been successfully launched, GTE Spacenet, on behalf of Contel ASC, is hereby notifying the Commission that the ASC-2 satellite is being renamed SPACENET IV. This name change is consistent with

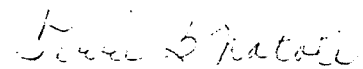
¹ Pursuant to a Memorandum, Opinion and Order released by the Federal Communications Commission on February 15, 1991, In re Application of Contel Corporation and GTE Corporation, 6 FCC Rcd. 1003, GTE Corporation and Contel Corporation merged their operations. As a result, the license for the ASC-2 satellite is now held by a wholly-owned subsidiary of GTE Corporation. Applications for the pro forma assignment of the ASC-2 license to GTE Spacenet were filed with the Commission on July 24, 1991.

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domestic satellite industry practice of naming a company's satellites of the same general design sequentially as launched. Because no authorization currently exists for a SPACENET IV satellite, this change should pose no confusion for the Commission. Therefore, on all future documents filed with the Commission relating to this satellite, GTE will refer to it as SPACENET IV.

If there are any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Terri B. Natoli

cc: Fern J. Jarmulnek