

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.

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January 10, 2003

BY HAND DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch
Federal Communications Commission
International Bureau - Satellites
P.O. Box 358210
Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5210

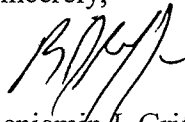
**Re: R/L DBS Company, LLC Request for Extension of Milestone Date for
Launch of Rainbow 1; File Nos. DBS 87-01, 94-SAT-AL-96, 94-SAT-TC-96,
49-SAT-TC-95, 130-SAT-EXT-95**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

R/L DBS Company, LLC ("Rainbow DBS"), pursuant to Section 25.117(e) of the Commission's rules, hereby requests an extension of the milestone date for launch of the Rainbow 1 satellite from March 29, 2003 to May 31, 2003. As verified by the attached application, this request for extension does not seek to extend milestones related to the construction of the satellite or the date for commencement of service. Rather, this request is solely to extend the launch date milestone and is necessary due to unforeseeable circumstances beyond Rainbow DBS's control. Grant of the requested extension will serve the public interest. In support of this request, attached please find a modification application that serves as the verified statement justifying the extension as required by 47 CFR 25.117(e), a letter from Lockheed Martin Commercial Space Systems advising of the need for an extension, a FCC Form 159 and the required fees for a modification in the Direct Broadcast Satellite service.

Should you have any questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Benjamin J. Griffin
Christopher R. Bjornson

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cc: Donald Abelson
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Rosalee Chiara
Sasha Field
Jennifer Gilsean
Anna Gomez
John Martin
Cassandra Thomas
Tom Tycz
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WDC 325195v1