WILMERHALE

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William T. Lake

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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December 19, 2006

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: TMI Communications and Company, Limited Partnership -- Request for Selected Assignment of 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Service Operating Frequencies, FCC File Nos. SAT-MOD-20021114-00237 and SAT-MOD-20061206-00144

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Globalstar, Inc. ("Globalstar") submits this opposition for the record in the above-captioned proceeding in which TMI Communications and Company, Limited Partnership requests, on behalf of itself and TerreStar Networks, Inc. (collectively "TMI/TerreStar"), that the Commission approve specific operating frequencies for the proposed TMI/TerreStar 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Service ("MSS") system. <sup>1</sup>/

As the Commission and TMI/TerreStar are aware, Globalstar was one of the original 2 GHz MSS licensees and continues vigorously to challenge the Commission's cancellation of its 2 GHz authorization as unlawful and inconsistent with Commission precedent. In addition, Globalstar and others have challenged as severely flawed on factual, policy, and legal grounds the Commission's decision to reserve all of the 2 GHz MSS spectrum to TMI/TerreStar and ICO

See TMI Communications and Company, Limited Partnership -- Request for Selected Assignment of 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Service Operating Frequencies, FCC File Nos. SAT-MOD-20021114-00237 and SAT-MOD-20061206-00144 (filed December 6, 2006) ("Frequency Assignment Request"). Globalstar is simultaneously filing a notice of its intent to participate in this proceeding. See Globalstar, Inc., Notice of Intent To Participate, FCC File Nos. SAT-MOD-20021114-00237 and SAT-MOD-20061206-00144 (filed Dec. 19, 2006).

See Globalstar, Petition for Reconsideration, File Nos. SAT-LOA-19970926-00151/52/53/54/56, et al. (filed July 26, 2004); Supplement to Petition for Reconsideration, File Nos. SAT-LOA-19970926-00151/52/53/54/56, et al. (filed Aug. 26, 2005).

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Satellite Services ("ICO"). All of these proceedings remain pending today. As a result, there is simply no truth to TMI/TerreStar's assertion in its Frequency Assignment Request that "[t]oday, the band plan for the 2 GHz MSS has been finalized." Any action by the Commission to designate specific frequencies within the 2 GHz MSS spectrum for TMI/TerreStar and ICO alone would be premature before these proceedings are resolved.

Globalstar reiterates that, if given the opportunity, it stands ready, willing, and financially able to construct and launch a robust and viable 2 GHz MSS system pursuant to milestones consistent with those that the Commission has adopted for TMI/TerreStar. Globalstar currently serves over 250,000 subscribers in 120 countries. A significant number of Globalstar's customers are first responders and other public safety officials who have come to rely on Globalstar's services on a day-to-day basis and during times of emergency when terrestrial wireline and wireless networks fail. These subscribers, who are rapidly growing in number, offer perhaps the most compelling justification for the Commission to reconsider its cancellation of Globalstar's 2 GHz license and reservation of all of the 2 GHz spectrum for two foreign-licensed entities with little or no MSS business experience. Globalstar is an existing provider with a proven track record of providing effective MSS services that meet the needs of the public safety community at the federal, state, and local level.

On December 4, 2006, Globalstar announced the signing of a contract with Alcatel Alenia Space for the design, manufacture, and delivery of Globalstar's second-generation constellation, to be composed of 48 low earth orbit satellites. This second generation LEO constellation will ensure that Globalstar's services will reach all but the polar regions of the earth's surface and will enable Globalstar to offer superior call quality and service features to its

See Petition of Globalstar for Reconsideration filed in IB Docket Nos. 05-220 and 05-221 (Jan. 9, 2006); Consolidated Petition for Reconsideration of Inmarsat Ventures Limited and Inmarsat Global Limited filed in IB Docket Nos. 05-220 and 05-221 (Jan. 9, 2006). The Commission expressly conditioned that decision on the outcome of Globalstar's petition for reconsideration of the cancellation of its 2 GHz license. See Order, Use of Returned Spectrum in the 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Service Frequency Bands, 20 FCC Rcd 19696 (2005) at ¶ 63.

See TMI/TerreStar Frequency Assignment Request at Exhibit 2, page 3.

See Globalstar LLC Ex Parte Notice in IB Docket Nos. 05-220 & 05-221 (filed Sept. 19, 2005).

See Globalstar Press Release, "Globalstar, Inc. Signs Contract with Alcatel Alenia Space for Second-Generation LEO Satellite Constellation" (Dec. 4, 2006).

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public safety and other customers. Once launched, these satellites will integrate with and eventually replace Globalstar's existing satellite constellation, ensuring that Globalstar's services will continue to be available at least through 2025. With a 2 GHz authorization, Globalstar would provide services complementary to its basic voice and data services, as described in its previous pleadings before the Commission. <sup>7</sup>

In short, Globalstar has made a compelling showing in support of the reinstatement of its 2 GHz MSS authorization. Its petition for reconsideration of the withdrawal of that authorization has been pending for two and a half years. To proceed now to assign specific frequencies of the contested spectrum to TMI/TerreStar and ICO, before resolving whether Globalstar is lawfully entitled to part of the spectrum, would be highly prejudicial and improper. It is vital that the Commission decline to make specific frequency assignments to TMI/TerreStar and ICO until it has reconsidered its decision to deny Globalstar access to any part of the 2 GHz MSS spectrum.

Sincerely yours,

William T. Lake

Counsel to Globalstar, Inc.

cc: Gregory C. Staple

Sam Feder

Roderick Porter

Cassandra Thomas

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Howard Griboff

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<sup>7/</sup> See, e.g., Petition of Globalstar for Reconsideration, supra note 3.

## Before the Federal Communications Commission WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

FILED/ACCEPTED
DEC 1 9 2006

In the Matter of	)	Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary
	)	
TMI Communications and Company, Limited	)	FCC File Nos.
Partnership Request for Selected	)	SAT-MOD-20021114-00237
Assignment of 2 GHz Mobile Satellite	)	SAT-MOD-20061206-00144
Service Operating Frequencies	)	

## **NOTICE OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE**

Globalstar, Inc. hereby provides notice of its intent to participate in the above-captioned proceeding, thereby becoming a party as provided in Section 1.1202(d)(1) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1202(d)(1).

Respectfully submitted,

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Josh L. Roland, hereby certify that on this <u>19</u>th day of December, 2006, I caused to be served a true copy of the foregoing "Notice of Intent To Participate" filed on behalf of Globalstar, Inc. upon the following persons via hand delivery (indicated with an asterisk ("\*")) or first-class, United States mail, postage prepaid:

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