

January 25, 2016

VIA IBFS

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Ex Parte* Letter
File No. SAT-MOD-20150802-00053

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 21, 2016, Mike Safyan, Director of Launch and Regulatory Affairs of Planet Labs, Inc. (“Planet Labs”), and Tony Lin, Counsel for Planet Labs, met with Stephen Duall, Chip Fleming, and Cindy Spiers, each of the International Bureau (“Bureau”), to discuss the above-referenced application and the Petition to Dismiss, Deny, or Hold in Abeyance (“Petition”) submitted by ORBCOMM License Corp. (“ORBCOMM”) in this application proceeding.¹

Planet Labs expressed surprise by the Petition and disappointment that ORBCOMM did not first attempt to resolve its concerns operator-to-operator. Both Planet Labs and ORBCOMM are members of the Space Data Association, which is a non-profit association of satellite operators, having the primary goals of facilitating “improvements in the safety and integrity of satellite operations through wider and improved coordination among satellites operators [and] improved management of the shared resources of the space environment.”²

Planet Labs also explained its risk collision assessment and NASA’s Debris Assessment Software or DAS. Given the expected launch of a number of its satellites in the spring of 2016, Planet Labs urged the Bureau to act expeditiously.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission’s rules, this letter is being filed electronically in the above-referenced proceeding.³ Please direct any questions regarding this submission to the undersigned.

¹ See Petition to Dismiss, Deny, or Hold in Abeyance (filed Jan. 19, 2016).

² See *SDA Overview*, Space Data Association, <http://www.space-data.org/sda/about/sda-overview/> (last accessed Jan. 25, 2016).

³ On January 20, 2016, the Bureau, on its own motion, changed the status of the application proceeding to “permit-but-disclose” effective January 21, 2016. See Report No. SAT-01131, DA 16-80 (Jan. 22, 2016).

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Tony Lin

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cc: (via email)
Stephen Duall
Chip Fleming
Cindy Spiers