

caused by earth station uplink transmissions into the satellite. As HCG acknowledges, "[w]ith proper power limits on the operation of small and transportable earth stations, HCG does not expect that Satcom C-1 will cause unacceptable interference into Galaxy 1."⁵ HCG, however, does not provide any documentation to support its claims that earth station licensees are regularly exceeding their authorized powers or that licensed earth stations operating at higher powers are causing harmful interference.⁶ As with all licensees of new satellites, it is incumbent on GE Americom to coordinate its operations with the operations of adjacent in-orbit satellites before it brings its satellite into service at 137⁰ W.L. Satcom C-1's power levels fall within those levels that are routinely authorized. Other satellites are operating with comparable specifications and these satellites have been and are continuing to be coordinated among affected licensees without a special license requirement. There is no reason to believe that Satcom C-1 will not similarly be successfully coordinated with adjacent satellites without the need for Commission involvement.

III. CONCLUSION

9. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that Application File Nos. 64-DSS-MISC-90, 65-DSS-ML-90, and 1-DSS-MISC-91 ARE GRANTED.

10. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Orbital Assignment Plan set forth in the Appendix to *Assignment of Space Stations in the Domestic Fixed-Satellite Service*, 3 FCC Rcd 6972 (1988), modified, 5 FCC Rcd 179 (1990), further modified in *American Satellite Company*, 5 FCC Rcd 1186 (1990), in *GTE Spacenet Corporation*, 5 FCC Rcd 1182 (1990), and in *Hughes Communications Galaxy, Inc.*, 5 FCC Rcd 3423 (1990) IS FURTHER MODIFIED to assign Satcom 1R to 131⁰ W.L.

11. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that GE Americom Communications, Inc. IS AUTHORIZED to operate Satcom C-1 at the 139⁰ W.L. orbital location on the condition that the satellite be moved to its regularly assigned location of 137⁰ W.L. not later than the date on which 139⁰ W.L. is ready to be occupied by Alascom, Inc.'s Aurora 2 satellite.

12. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Alascom, Inc. IS AUTHORIZED to test Aurora 2 at the 136⁰ W.L. orbital location for an eight week period after it is launched. At the expiration of this period, it must begin to move the satellite to its regularly assigned location of 139⁰ W.L.

13. GE American Communications, Inc. and Alascom, Inc. are afforded thirty days from the date of release of this order to decline the authorizations as conditioned. Failure to respond within this time period will constitute formal acceptance of the authorizations as conditioned.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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

FOOTNOTES

¹ GE Americom states that it plans to maintain Satcom 3R as a non-operational in-orbit spare.

² GE Americom states that it will operate Satcom C-1, which is equipped with polarization switching capability, in the vertical polarization sense while it is operating at 139⁰ W.L. to conform to the C-band polarization plan at that location.

³ Assignment of Orbital Locations to Space Stations in the Domestic Fixed-Satellite Service, 5 FCC Rcd 179 (1990) (Reconsideration Order).

⁴ HCG states that its objections are timely because it recently learned that Satcom C-1's performance specifications are different from what HCG had understood them to be. This does not alter the procedural deficiencies of HCG's pleading. If HCG believes that GE Americom is implementing the Satcom C-1 satellite with technical specifications different from those authorized, this proceeding -- which involves only Satcom C-1's temporary assignment to 139⁰ W.L. -- is not the appropriate place in which to raise these issues.

⁵ HCG Response at 3.

⁶ If HCG believes this to be the case in general, it is more appropriately addressed in the context of a Rule Making proceeding. The Commission will take any necessary action in the context of that proceeding.