IN REPLY REFER TO:
0800B3

September 18, 1996

Ms. Karis A. Hastings
Hogan & Hartson, L.L.P.
Columbia Square
555 Thirteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 2004-1109

Reference: Request for Special Temporary Authority to test the GE-1 satellite
                (File No. 153-SAT-STA-96)

Dear Ms. Hastings:

GE American Communications, Inc. (GE Americom) has requested special temporary authority for a limited test of its GE-1 domestic fixed-satellite at 101° W.L. before it is placed into its permanent orbital position at 103° W.L.

GE Americom is requesting a limited test at 101° W.L. in order to provide uninterruped service to its GSTAR I customers at 103° W.L. Two transponders on GSTAR I provide 24 hour a day, seven day a week service to multiple customers. Therefore, GE Americom will be unable to test the corresponding transponders on GE-1 at 103° without disrupting service to these customers.

GE Americom's Satcom SN-4 satellite (formerly Spacenet 4) is operating at 101° W.L. Satcom SN-4 does not operate on the frequencies that will be tested and, therefore, the test will not interfere with Satcom SN-4's operations. GE Americom states that no adjacent interference will occur and indicates that Hughes Communications Galaxy, Inc. (Hughes), licensee of Galaxy IV located at 99° W.L., does not object to the test provided they are notified when testing will take place. GE Americom has committed to do so.

Pursuant to Section 0.261 of the Commission's rules on delegations of authority, 47 C.F.R. § 0.261, this confirms special temporary authority, granted verbally September 13, 1996. GE American Communications, Inc. is authorized to test its GE-1 satellite at 101° W.L. as proposed in its August 16, 1996 request. In addition, no harmful interference shall be caused to any other lawfully operated radio station and GE Americom shall cease testing operations immediately upon notification of interference.

Sincerely,

Fern J. Jarmulnek

for Thomas S. Tycz
Chief, Satellite and Radiocommunication Division
International Bureau