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ORIGINAL

April 7, 2004

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 110  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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Policy Branch  
International Bureau

**Re: File Nos. SAT-STA-20030903-00300; SAT-STA-20040107-00002; SES-LFS-20040112-00023; EX PARTE**

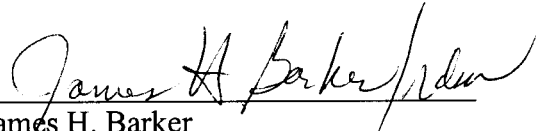
Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to advise you that on Monday, April 5, 2004, the undersigned and Susan Eid on behalf of The DIRECTV Group, Inc. ("DIRECTV") met with Roderick Porter, Tom Tycz, Karl Kensinger, Joann Lucanik, John Martin, Steven Spaeth, Jay Whaley, and Chip Fleming of the International Bureau, and Rosalee Chiara of the Media Bureau. At this meeting, DIRECTV and these Commission representatives discussed (i) the general status of the above referenced proceedings; (ii) the position of the DIRECTV 3 satellite; and (iii) the importance of a grant of the DIRECTV 3 STA to aid Telesat Canada.

DIRECTV also highlighted the importance of prompt processing of the DIRECTV 5 applications, in order to provide local-into-local service to at least 130 designated market areas ("DMAs") by the end of 2004.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



James H. Barker  
of LATHAM & WATKINS

Counsel for The DIRECTV Group, Inc.

cc: Susan Eid, The DIRECTV Group, Inc.

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