



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Telecommunications and**  
**Information Administration**  
Washington, D.C. 20230

December 11, 2003

Thomas Tycz  
Chief, Satellite Division  
International Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Mr. Tycz:

Re: Application of SkyWave Mobile Communications, Blanket Authority to Operate  
METs, SES-LIC-20030311-00353

NTIA is very appreciate of the cooperation SkyWave has shown in working to meet the priority and preemption requirements for the mobile-satellite service at 1.5/1.6 GHz. We have reviewed SkyWave's proposal to modify their D+ type METs and to undertake software changes at the Inmarsat LES as described in its letter to the Commission of November 21, 2003. The actions set forth in their letter appear to be sufficient to meet the priority and preemption requirements for the lower part of the 1.5/1.6 GHz MSS bands i.e. sharing with GMDSS services.

NTIA does not object to the grant of this SkyWave application for a blanket license, so long as the commitments made by SkyWave in its November 21 letter are conditions on their license. We appreciate your cooperation on the application.

Sincerely,

James Vorhies  
Chief, International Spectrum Plans and  
Policy Division

CC Sylvia Lam  
Cassandra Thomas