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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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

**Re: Request for Extension of Closing Deadline; IB Docket No. 03-115;
Transfer of Control of Satellite Earth Stations E000164 and KA-34;
File Nos. SES-T/C-20030418-00502, SES-T/C-20030418-00501**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pacific Telecom Inc. ("PTI") and Bell Atlantic New Zealand Holdings, Inc. ("BANZHI"), by their attorneys, respectfully request an additional 60 days—from July 4, 2004 through and including September 1, 2004—to complete the transfer of control of the above-referenced earth station licenses in the above-captioned docket. On November 6, 2003, the International Bureau, Wireline Competition Bureau, and Wireless Bureau authorized a transfer of control from BANZHI to PTI of certain licenses held by The Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation ("MTC") and its subsidiary GTE Pacifica Inc. ("GTE Pacifica").

Unfortunately, despite the ongoing diligent efforts of the parties, not all of the conditions to the closing of the transaction have yet been satisfied. The parties continue to await approval from the local regulatory authority in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Commonwealth Telecommunications Commission, for the transfer of control of the local telecommunications license. The parties cannot close the transaction before obtaining this additional regulatory approval.

Pursuant to Section 25.119 of the Commission's rules, the earliest deadline for consummating this transaction was 60 days after authorization—January 5, 2004.¹ On January 5, 2004, the Commission granted PTI/BANZHI's request for an

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 25.119. The 60-day deadline pertains to the two earth station licenses. A relevant deadline also applies for the wireless license. That deadline for consummation is 180 days after authorization, which is May 4, 2004. The parties requested a 180-day extension of that deadline on May 1, 2004, File No. 0001721117.

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extension of the original deadline and set the new deadline at March 4, 2004.² On two subsequent occasions, PTI and BANZHI requested an additional 60 days in which to consummate the transaction.³ At this time, PTI and BANZHI respectfully request an additional 60 days, until September 1, 2004, in which to consummate the transaction.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

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cc: Tom Tycz, Chief , Satellite Division
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² Request for Extension of Closing Deadline; IB Docket No. 03-115; Transfer of Control of Satellite Earth Stations E000164 and KA-34; File Nos. SES-T/C-20030418-00502, SES-T/C-20030418-00501 (oral grant from Jeanette Spriggs, International Bureau, FCC to Jennifer Hindin, Counsel to BANZHI on January 5, 2004).

³ Requests for Extension of Closing Deadline; IB Docket No. 03-115; Transfer of Control of Satellite Earth Stations E000164 and KA-34; File Nos. SES-T/C-20030418-00502, SES-T/C-20030418-00501 (filed March 1, 2004 and May 1, 2004)