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Director General
Telecommunications Policy Branch
Industry Canada
16th Floor
300 Slater Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0C8

**Re: Consultation Paper on the Possible Use of the Extended-Ku Spectrum Bands for Direct-to-Home (DTH) Satellite Broadcasting Services
Canada Gazette, Part I, DGTP-003-08 of December 2008**

Dear Sir:

Intelsat Corporation (“Intelsat”), by its counsel, hereby submits the following comments in response to Industry Canada’s Consultation in the above-captioned proceeding. Intelsat operates a network of geostationary fixed-satellite service (“FSS”) space stations around the world, and several of its space stations have been approved by Industry Canada for inclusion on the list of approved FSS satellites.

In Consultation Paper DGTP-003-08 dated December 2008, Industry Canada requested public comment on the possible use of the extended-Ku spectrum bands for direct-to-home (“DTH”) satellite broadcasting services.

Intelsat would like to respond to the specific questions posed by Industry Canada as follows:

1. (a) The Department seeks comments as to whether the spectrum utilization policy of the Ku frequency band 10.7-11.7 GHz should be changed to accommodate the provisioning of DTH services and, if so, what the designated use for each of the sub-bands should be.



Intelsat supports designating portions of the 10.7-11.7 GHz band, namely the 10.95-11.2 GHz and 11.45-11.7 GHz bands, for priority use by the fixed-satellite service to accommodate the provisioning of DTH services (one-way and two-way) as well as other FSS applications. It is important that these portions of the 10.7-11.7 GHz band continue to be available to all FSS operators in a way that fosters fair competition among them.

(b) More specifically, should the designation be as requested in section 3.1 above, namely that the extended-Ku bands 10.95-11.2 GHz and 11.45-11.7 GHz be designated only to the fixed-satellite service, and the bands 10.7-10.95 GHz and 11.2-11.45 GHz continue to be designated to the fixed-satellite and fixed services under the current policy stipulations?

Yes. The 10.95-11.20 GHz and 11.45-11.70 GHz bands are more likely to have widespread deployment of FSS terminals, and therefore should be designated only to the fixed-satellite service. The 10.70-10.95 GHz and 11.20-11.45 GHz bands should continue to be designated for use by the fixed-satellite and fixed services.

If these designations are made as described in 1(b) above:

2. Should they (a) be for a limited duration, and (b) be made conditional on the bringing into use the extended-Ku bands for DTH services within a specified period of time?

The revised Industry Canada spectrum utilization policy for the 10.7-11.7 GHz band should be established on a permanent basis following a three-year transition period, and this policy should not be limited to any specific geostationary orbital position.

3. Comments are sought as to the disposition of the current fixed service licensees in the extended-Ku bands. Should they be permitted to continue operating in these bands and, if so, under what conditions?

Intelsat submits that the 10.95-11.2 GHz and 11.45-11.7 GHz bands should be designated for exclusive use by the fixed-satellite service, according to the time schedule specified below.

After issuance of the Department's new spectrum policy to implement the foregoing, no new application for fixed service stations would be accepted. Three years after issuance of the new policy, the operation of fixed service systems utilizing the 10.95-11.2 GHz and 11.45-11.7 GHz bands should terminate. Until then, any FSS deployment in these bands would conform to the current policies with respect to fixed service transmitters licensed prior to issuance of the new policy (*i.e.*, before the moratorium).

4. Comments are sought as to whether the future capacity requirements of the fixed service can be accommodated in other fixed service allocations at 6, 15, 18 GHz and the remaining portions of the 11 GHz Ku band. Are these bands suitable and is there sufficient spectrum to accommodate any potentially displaced fixed service systems from the extended-Ku bands?

No comment.

5. Comments are sought on the coordination requirements with fixed systems in the U.S. and coordination with other FSS systems.

Protection to receive fixed service stations in the United States from FSS networks is afforded by power flux density (“pfd”) limits established in Article 21 of the ITU Radio Regulations, with which any extended Ku-band satellite must comply. Coordination with other extended Ku-band fixed-satellite systems will continue to be undertaken following the normal ITU coordination process.

If these designations are not made as described in 1(b) above:

6. Should consideration be given to authorizing the use of the extended-Ku bands to provide DTH services on a non-standard basis (i.e. receive-only earth stations shall not claim protection from harmful interference from any current and future authorized fixed service stations)?

It would not be viable to authorize the use of extended Ku-band frequencies to provide DTH satellite services on a non-standard basis. The wide distribution of consumer DTH receivers would be geographically unpredictable and, given the expected volume, interference mitigation for individual DTH receivers from fixed service transmitters would be commercially impractical and unworkable from a consumer perspective.

7. Comments are sought on how the near-term DTH capacity requirements can be met.

No comment.

Respectfully submitted,

INTELSAT CORPORATION



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