

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of

COMSAT CORPORATION File No. CSS-93-003-LA

Application for authority
to participate in the launch
of the INTELSAT VII-A (F-8)

ORDER AND AUTHORIZATION

Adopted: January 26, 1996; Released: February 9, 1996

By the Chief, Satellite and Radiocommunication Division:

1. The Commission has under consideration the above-captioned application filed by the COMSAT Corporation on December 17, 1992, for authority to participate in the launch, positioning and in-orbit testing of the INTELSAT VII-A (F-8) satellite, now referred to as the INTELSAT 708 satellite. The application appeared on the Commission's Public Notice on December 23, 1992. No comments were received.

2. Authority to construct and operate the INTELSAT 708 satellite was granted in an order (FCC File No. CSS-92-004) released January 20, 1994.¹ The satellite has been constructed and delivered. Current INTELSAT deployment plans call for the launch to take place on February 16, 1996, utilizing a Long March-3B launch vehicle. This satellite will replace the INTELSAT 705 satellite at 310° East Longitude in the Atlantic Ocean Region (AOR).

3. The estimated costs associated with the INTELSAT 708 satellite are as follows (all amounts in real year dollars):

Space Systems/Loral Contract Price	\$109.7 million
Spacecraft Parallel Integration	\$ 5.7 million
Space Systems/Loral Launch Support	\$ 6.9 million
Performance Incentives, Capitalized	\$ 3.4 million
Performance Incentives, Expensed	\$ 30.5 million
Support Contracts	\$ 2.2 million
Ariane 44LP Launch Vehicle & Services	\$ 56.4 million
TOTAL INTELSAT cost	\$214.8 million
TOTAL COMSAT cost (based on current ownership share of 19.106%)	\$ 41.0 million

4. The Commission has already determined that Comsat's participation in the procurement of the INTELSAT VII-A satellites is required to meet traffic requirements. We there-

fore find that the public interest will be served by a grant of Comsat's application for the launch of the INTELSAT 708 satellite as conditioned.

5. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that Comsat's application to participate in the launch and test program of the INTELSAT 708 satellite to be positioned at 310° East Longitude, IS GRANTED subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) This authorization is limited to the described program. Any change in the authorized location due to a launch delay or other circumstances will be considered upon a proper request by Comsat for authority;

(b) Comsat shall furnish via the INTELSAT 708 satellite only those channels of communication for commercial service which have been, or may be, authorized by the Commission under Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended;

(c) Within 30 days after completion of the testing program, Comsat shall provide the Commission with a summary report of its results and, upon request, shall make the detailed test data available;

(d) Conduct of the program authorized herein shall be without interruption of commercial satellite service now authorized at U.S. earth stations;

(e) Neither this authorization nor any right granted herein shall be assigned or otherwise transferred without approval of the Commission; and

(f) Unless extended or modified for good cause, this authorization shall terminate six months after the release date of this order.

6. This order is issued under Section 0.261 of the Commission's Rules and is effective upon adoption. Petitions for reconsideration under Section 1.106 or applications for review under Section 1.115 of the Commission's Rules may be filed within 30 days of the date of public notice of this order (See Section 1.4(b)(2)).

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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

¹ COMSAT Corporation, 9 FCC Rcd 327 (1994)