

April 17, 2002

ELECTRONICALLY FILED

William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW – Room TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Ex Parte Notice – Consolidated Application of EchoStar
Communications Corporation, General Motors Corporation and
Hughes Electronics Corporation for Authority to Transfer Control,
CS Docket No. 01-348**

Dear Mr. Caton:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, Applicants EchoStar Communications Corporation ("EchoStar"), General Motors Corporation and Hughes Electronics Corporation ("Hughes") submit this letter to advise the Commission that, on April 16, 2002, Pantelis Michalopoulos of Steptoe & Johnson LLP, counsel for EchoStar, and Gary Epstein of Latham & Watkins, counsel for Hughes, had a telephone conversation with Marcia Glauberman of the Commission's Media Bureau.

In that conversation, the Applicants communicated to the Commission their request to have meetings with the Commission staff to discuss the following general subjects:

- **DBS spectrum efficiency/satellite capacity issues:** freeing up spectrum for additional programming, local-into-local service to all 210 DMAs, HDTV and other DBS spectrum benefits associated with the merger; merger specificity (why these benefits are not achievable by each company standing alone).
- **Broadband:** creation of true ubiquitous broadband service by satellite with the merger; merger specificity (why these benefits are not achievable on a stand-alone basis).
- **Efficiencies and transition:** quantification, timing of, and plans for achieving, DBS and broadband efficiencies resulting from the merger.

- **Competitive effects:** analysis of the relevant market, effects of the merger on prices, national pricing.

One copy of this *ex parte* notice is being filed electronically with the Commission. If you have any questions concerning this notice, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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