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

JUL 30 2002

Donald Abelson
Chief of the International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Abelson:

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration, on behalf of the Executive Branch Agencies, has approved the release of an additional draft Executive Branch (NTIA) proposal for WRC-03. This proposal considers the federal agency inputs toward the development of U.S. Proposals for WRC-03.

The enclosed proposal is forwarded for your consideration and review by your WRC-03 Advisory Committee. Jim Vorhies from my staff will contact Alexander Roytblat and reconcile any differences between NTIA and FCC views.

Sincerely,

Fredrick R. Wentland
Acting Associate Administrator
Office of Spectrum Management

Enclosure

United States of America

DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

Agenda Item 1.16: To consider allocations on a worldwide basis for feeder links in bands around 1.4 GHz to the non-GSO MSS with service links operating below 1 GHz, taking into account the results of ITU-R studies conducted in response to Resolution **127 (Rev.WRC-2000)**, provided that due recognition is given to the passive services, taking into account No. **5.340**;

Background Information: Service allocations to the little LEO MSS were first made at WARC-92. Since 1995, additional allocations were sought by the little LEOs for feeder links without success. **Resolution 127 (WRC-97)** identified the bands 1 390-1 400 MHz and 1 427-1 432 MHz for studies to be carried out to accommodate up and downlinks, respectively, provided sharing with services using these bands was feasible and that the passive services operating in the 1 400-1 427 MHz band can be fully protected. Subsequent to WRC-97, little LEO requirements have been restricted to the 1 390-1 393 MHz and 1 429-1 432 MHz bands, for up and downlinks, respectively, and this narrower scope is reflected in **Resolution 127 (Rev. WRC-2000)**. More recently, the need for new allocations seems to have disappeared altogether. Draft CPM-02 text, prepared by WP 8D states: " However, during WRC-03 preparation, no evidence of spectrum congestion of MSS service links below 1 GHz has been shown in ITU-R. Furthermore, the experience of MSS below 1 GHz has demonstrated that the growth of the traffic could be accommodated in the existing frequency bands without requirement for an additional allocation. In addition, it has to be noted that several frequency bands are already allocated in upper frequency bands (for example 5 091-5 250 MHz) for non-GSO MSS feeder links and could provide an alternative solution for feeder links of MSS systems with service links below 1 GHz."

The 1 400-1 427 MHz band is allocated on a primary, exclusive basis to the passive services, worldwide. It is arguably the most important, and certainly the most frequently and extensively observed radio astronomy band below 70 GHz. Observations in the band are conducted at a large number of sites in the U.S. and worldwide, to study the distribution, kinematics and dynamics of neutral hydrogen (the most commonly occurring element in the Universe) in our own as well as in other galaxies. Ocean and soil salinity and other measurements are conducted in the band under the EESS allocation. Full retention and unconstrained access to the 1 400-1 427 MHz band is considered crucial by both the radio astronomy and EESS communities. For this reason, it is essential to conclude the studies mandated in Resolution **127,** before an allocation can be made.

Some theoretical work was done in SG 7 during the previous ITU-R cycle towards showing that by using certain modulations the planned little LEO feeder links could meet the unwanted emission level required in the band 1 400-1 427 MHz, for no impact on the operation of the passive services in this band. Resolution **127 (WRC-2000)** invited the ITU-R, as a matter of urgency to carry out additional studies, tests and demonstrations, *including the measurement of emissions from equipment that would be employed in operational systems to protect passive services in the band 1 400- 1427 MHz from unwanted emissions from feeder links near 1.4 GHz* for non-GSO systems with service links operating below 1 GHz. However, no such work has been initiated in any of the ITU-R study groups during the present cycle. There has been a complete lack of new studies undertaken or even known to be in progress, particularly towards *invites 3* of Resolution **127**: "to carry out additional studies *including the measurement of emissions from equipment that would be employed in operational systems to protect*

passive services in the band 1 400- 1 427 MHz from unwanted emissions from feeder links on a worldwide basis..."

Resolution 127 recommends that WRC-03 consider additional allocations for feeder links on the basis of completed studies referred to in its invites 1, 2 and 3. Since no such studies were conducted, consideration of any allocation is premature and it is proposed that **Resolution 127** be suppressed.

Proposal:

Article 5

Frequency Allocations

USA/ /1 **NOC**

1 350-1 525 MHz

Allocation to services		
Region 1	**Region 2**	**Region 3**
1 350-1 400 FIXED MOBILE RADIOLOCATION 5.149 5.338 5.339	**1 350-1 400** RADIOLOCATION 5.149 5.334 5.339	
1 400-1 427	EARTH EXPLORATION-SATELLITE (passive) RADIO ASTRONOMY SPACE RESEARCH (passive) 5.340 5.341	
1 427-1 429	SPACE OPERATION (Earth-to-space) FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile 5.341	
1 429-1 452 FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile 5.341 5.342	**1 429-1 452** FIXED MOBILE 5.343 5.341	
1 452-1 492 FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile BROADCASTING 5.345 5.347 BROADCASTING-SATELLITE 5.345 5.347 5.341 5.342	**1 452-1 492** FIXED MOBILE 5.343 BROADCASTING 5.345 5.347 BROADCASTING-SATELLITE 5.345 5.347 5.341 5.344	

1 492-1 525 FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile 5.341 5.342	**1 492-1 525** FIXED MOBILE 5.343 MOBILE-SATELLITE (space-to-Earth) 5.348A 5.341 5.344 5.348	**1 492-1 525** FIXED MOBILE 5.341 5.348A

Reasons: None of the studies called for in ITU-R **Resolution 127** have been carried out.

USA/ /2 SUP

Resolution 127

Reasons: Since no such studies were conducted, consideration of any allocation is premature and it is proposed that **Resolution 127** be suppressed.