

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)
)
INTELSAT LLC) SAT-MS-C-20010822-00075
)
Request for Extension of Time)
Under Section 621(5) of the ORBIT Act)

ORDER

Adopted: September 5, 2001

Released: September 6, 2001

By the Chief, Satellite and Radiocommunication Division:

1. By this Order, we deny PanAmSat’s Corporation (“PanAmSat’s”) request for a one-week extension of time to file comments in the above referenced proceeding. This will ensure that important issues involved in this proceeding are resolved in a timely manner.

2. Under 621(5) of the ORBIT Act, Intelsat LLC is required to conduct an Initial Public Offering (“IPO”) by October 1, 2001.¹ That same section gives the Commission discretion to extend the deadline as late as December 31, 2002.² Intelsat LLC has requested an extension of the IPO deadline until December 31, 2002. This request was placed on Public Notice on August 28, 2001, requiring comments or oppositions to Intelsat LLC’s request to be filed by September 5, 2001.³

3. PanAmSat argues that a one-week of the filing period extension is warranted because Intelsat’s request raises significant legal issues that will require counsel to have more than seven days to address the issues thoroughly. PanAmSat also argues that integral employees of PanAmSat and lead counsel are unavailable until after the comment deadline due to the Labor Day holiday.

4. The comment period set out in the public notice is consistent with the comment period

¹ 47 U.S.C. § 763(5).

² *Id.*

³ Public Notice, Report No. SAT-00081 (Aug. 28, 2001).

established in past proceedings related to extensions of ORBIT Act deadlines.⁴ Further, requests for extensions of time to file comments are not routinely granted.⁵ In order for the Commission to have sufficient time to review the record and make a determination on the issues by October 1, 2001, we will not extend the comment and reply dates absent extraordinary circumstances. PanAmSat has presented none. We therefore find that it is not in the public interest to grant PanAmSat the one-week extension it requests.

5. This decision is made pursuant to the authority found in Sections 4(i) and 303 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i), 303; and pursuant to Sections 0.51, 0.261, 1.46 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.51, 0.261, 1.46.

6. Accordingly, PanAmSat's request for an extension of time in which to file comments is DENIED.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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

⁴ See Public Notice, Report No. SAT-MSC-20010405-00029, April 12, 2001; Public Notice Report No. SAT-00053 (Aug. 16, 2000); and Public Notice Report No. SAT-00044 (May 31, 2000).

⁵ 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a).