

other matters that need to be performed by third parties before the Commission can resolve the outstanding issues in this proceeding. The Opposition, on the other hand, contends that it is in the public interest to resolve this matter on a more expedited basis and that a thirty-day extension is simply not appropriate under such circumstances.

3. The Commission's general policy is that extensions of time are not routinely granted.⁵ Moreover, the Commission specifically disfavors requests for extensions of time filed on such short notice.⁶ Nevertheless, we still consider and, in certain instances, grant limited requests for extensions of time where we find that the public interest would be best served by a more a complete discussion of the matters pending before the Commission. We believe that it is in the public interest to decide this matter with the most complete and well-developed record possible. After weighing the parties' arguments, we find that a moderate extension of time is appropriate under the circumstances presented. We believe that a moderate extension of time appropriately balances the interests of commenting parties without unreasonably delaying the resolution of the proceeding. Therefore, we will grant a ten-day extension of time for the filing of reply comments. As a result, reply comments must be filed on or before April 9, 2001.

4. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that pursuant to Section 1.46 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.46, the request of DIRECTV, Inc. and EchoStar Satellite Corporation to extend the deadline for filing reply comments in this proceeding, filed March 21, 2001, is GRANTED IN PART and DENIED IN PART to the extent indicated.

5. This actions is taken under delegated authority pursuant to Sections 0.131 and 0.331 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. . §§ 0.131, 0.331.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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Deputy Chief, Public Safety and Private Wireless Division
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⁵ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a).

⁶ See 47 C.F.R § 1.46(b).