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Report No. SPB-166 April 6, 2001

Satellite Policy Branch Information

Availability of Intelsat Space Segment Capacity to Users and Service Providers
Seeking to Access Intelsat Directly
IB Docket No. 00-91

On September 19, 2000, the Commission issued a Report and Order in IB Docket No. 00-91 carrying out of Section 641(b) of the Open-Market Reorganization for the Betterment of International Telecommuications Act (ORBIT Act). The Section requires the Commission to determine whether "users or providers of telecommunications services have sufficient opportunity to access INTELSAT space segment capacity directly from INTELSAT to meet their service or capacity requirements." It also directs the Commission to take "appropriate action to facilitate direct access" if sufficient opportunity does not exist. The Commission found in its Report and Order that users and service providers do not have "sufficient opportunity" for direct access and required the Comsat Corporation (Comsat) and direct access users to negotiate in good faith to find commercial solutions to satisfy customer service and capacity requirements. The Commission also required Comsat to file a report with the Commission on March 13, 2001 on the progress of the negotiations. Comsat has reported the results of its negotiations and submits that direct access opportunities are increasing for those who want them. Comsat requests that this proceeding now be terminated. This notice provides parties an opportunity to comment on Comsat's report.

Comments are due April 23, 2001. Reply comments are due April 30, 2001.

For further information, contact James L. Ball of the International Bureau at (202)418-0427.

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Pub. L. 106-180 § 64.

Availability of INTELSAT Space Segment Capacity to Users and Service Providers Seeking to Access INTELSAT Directly. Report and Order, IB Docket No. 00-91, FCC 00-340 released September 19, 2000.