October 31, 2014

Via Electronic Filing

Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Terrestrial Use of the 2473-2495 MHz Band for Low-Power Mobile Broadband Networks; Amendments to Rules for the Ancillary Terrestrial Component of Mobile Satellite Service Systems – IB Docket No. 13-213, RM-11685; Ex Parte Letter

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

Louisiana continues to diversify its economy by rapidly growing our technology sector. We were very pleased that Globalstar decided to relocate its corporate headquarters to Louisiana in 2010, and we have watched over the past four years as it has conquered the challenges of launching and deploying a second generation satellite constellation. Globalstar is now rebuilding its mobile satellite business, regaining its former customer base, and launching new mobile satellite product and service offerings. We in Louisiana are very familiar with the importance of satellite-based communications, particularly in times of emergency.

Last November, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) proposed new rules that would allow Globalstar to utilize its spectrum for certain terrestrial broadband services, while maintaining its critical satellite services. We understand how important it is for your Commission to free up additional spectrum for terrestrial mobile broadband applications and the economic impact such actions can have. A recent study by the American Consumer Institute has quantified the significant growth in GDP and jobs that would result from the FCC’s adoption of its proposed rules allowing Globalstar to put an additional 22 MHz of spectrum into use for mobile broadband services. These substantial benefits would accrue not only to Louisiana, but to the nation as a whole.

We encourage the Commission to move forward with a final order in that proceeding, allowing Globalstar to intensively utilize its licensed spectrum so as to ensure the continued availability of its critical mobile satellite services, as well as the additional innovative mobile broadband services that will result from the increased regulatory flexibility.

Sincerely,

Stephen Moret
Secretary