Organisation: UK Space

Question 1: Do you agree that Ofcom should grant Urban Wimax's and Cable & Wireless's requests to vary their licences as soon as practicable?

We do not agree. We believe satellite use offers the best use of the spectrum and can make a large contribution to the UK economy and to economic growth. We therefore consider that indefinite extension of the licenses to not be appropriate. Space is a global business and the UK can not act alone in determining the use of the 28GHz band and all the indicators at the moment point towards dominant future use by satcom services.

Question 2: Do you agree with our proposal to align the technical conditions of the licences with those awarded in 2008 in these and adjacent spectrum bands?

As the 2008 licenses were for 15 years and presumably this can not be changed, it would make sense to bring all licenses to a common standard with a common termination date in 2023. However, a clear plan for the future use of the band should be prepared as soon as possible.

Question 3: Do you agree with Ofcom's proposals to set an AIP fee level in context with the review of fees within bands used for fixed links?

We agree that a re-auction is not appropriate

Question 4: Do you agree that Ofcom should offer this variation to other BFWA licence holders?

No comment

Additional comments:

I am writing to you as the chairman of the Satellite Telecommunications Committee of UKspace.

UKspace is the trade association of the UK space industry. UKspace is sponsored jointly by ADS and Intellect encapsulating both the upstream and downstream nature of the space sector.

The UKspace position is that we fully endorse on behalf of the UK industry the response sent to Ofcom by ESOA, the European Satellite Operators Association