

**Reply to Questions for the Record**

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**House Energy and Commerce Committee**

**Subcommittee on Communications and Technology**

**“Launching Into the State of the Satellite Marketplace”**

**February 2, 2023**



**Question for the Record for Amazon following the February 2, 2023 Hearing of the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Communications and Technology**

**March 2, 2023**

**Question from Rep. Earl L. “Buddy” Carter**

**How should potential incentives be aligned to balance speed and innovation with the need to provide certainty and protection to satellite systems?**

We believe U.S. satellite policy should foster new deployments and support both new and existing systems, especially amongst non-geostationary satellite systems (NGSOs) that operate in a shared spectrum environment. Currently, the rules established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for NGSOs are priority based, with later-licensed systems required to protect earlier-licensed systems from harmful interference in a shared spectrum environment. While some measure of protection is necessary to ensure spectral stability for existing systems, protections that are too imbalanced will discourage innovation and new deployment. With respect to NGSOs in particular, a balanced measure of interference protection should account for the characteristics of modern NGSO systems that make them well suited to share spectrum among new and existing systems. Further, to encourage innovation and incentivize spectrum sharing, the heightened protections of earlier-licensed systems should sunset after a reasonable period of time—in our view, six years after the grant of a license.

Finally, aligned incentives should encourage all NGSOs to invest in and adopt measures like sharing the operational information necessary to avoid interference. This would ensure meaningful coordination among NGSO systems and lead to more efficient spectrum use. By continuing to develop ways to share operational information, NGSO systems can more efficiently coexist in shared spectrum—providing greater protection to existing systems while making more room for new ones.

We recently [filed](#) in support of such rules at the FCC.