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Subject: Satellite Offices

Satellite Offices for the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Comments from Nickol aus E. Leggett, independent inventor

The satellite offices of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) should be established in the following major cities in the United States: New York City, Los Angeles, Boston, San Francisco, Houston, Chicago, and Atlanta. These offices would be in addition to the satellite office already approved for Detroit.

Each one of these cities has major industrial, scientific, and university resources that would make use of the satellite offices provided by the USPTO. Of course, the USPTO has budgetary limits, and so the offices would have to be established in stages. I have listed the cities in the priority order that I would apply, with the most important city listed first.

The primary service of the satellite offices is to provide face-to-face contact between applicants and USPTO patent examiners. This would facilitate applicant interviews and discussions of the details of the patent system with applicants. The examiners at each satellite office should represent a wide range of technical disciplines.

In addition, the satellite offices can provide advanced online search systems that are superior to the searches available online on the Internet.

The satellite offices should be linked to each other and to the main USPTO office in Alexandria, VA by high-speed modern communications networks. The USPTO data bases should be stored in redundant storage facilities that are suitably protected against damage or loss resulting from natural disasters, solar geomagnetic storms, sabotage, and nuclear electromagnetic pulse (EMP) events. These patent and trademark data bases are a precious resource for America and humanity, and they need to be properly protected from the negative events that can occur. Technical and budgetary support for this effort should be sought from the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense.

The satellite offices will improve the efficiency and accessibility of the USPTO and the invention community of the United States.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix A - My background

I am an individual inventor with three U.S. Patents. I am also a certified electronics technician (ISCET and iNARTE) and an Extra Class amateur radio operator (call sign N3NL). I have a Master of Arts degree in Political Science from the Johns Hopkins University (June 1970). In addition, I am a professional technical writer.

Some of my document references are listed below:

"Demonstration and Development of Amateur Radio Applications of Natural Vacuum Electronics"; Nickol aus E. Leggett, N3NL - 22nd AMSAT Space Symposium and Annual

Meeting October 8-10, 2004 in Arlington, Virginia

"A 'Lighthouse' Protocol for Random Microwave Contacts", Nickol aus E. Leggett, N3NL, QEX The Experimenter's Exchange – Technical Notes July/August 2004 – American Radio Relay League, Newington, CT.

I am an author, with my wife Judith F. Leggett, of numerous peer-reviewed papers on controlled-environment agriculture. Judith is an agricultural expert. We presented these papers at space engineering conferences.

I have submitted over 200 regulatory documents in rule making dockets at the Federal Communications Commission. These documents of mine are accessible online on the Internet at the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). In addition, I have filed regulatory comments at the EPA, FAA, TSA, and other Federal agencies. These comments are accessible on the Regulations.gov web site.