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HEC HOLDINGS INC  
Form 425  
June 18, 2002

Filed by Hughes Electronics Corporation  
Subject Company - Hughes Electronics Corporation  
and General Motors Corporation  
and EchoStar Communications Corporation  
Pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act of 1933  
and Deemed Filed Pursuant to Rule 14a-12  
under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
Commission File No.: 333-84472

The following letter was distributed to retirees of Hughes beginning on June 18, 2002:

May 30, 2002

Dear HUGHES Retiree,

You have probably heard about the proposed merger between HUGHES and EchoStar, announced in October and currently in the regulatory approval process. As a recipient of benefits from the qualified Hughes Retirement Plan and possibly other retiree benefit plans, there are a few things we wanted to address to answer some questions you may have concerning these benefits if a merger occurs. Below is a general summary highlighting certain of these benefits issues, however, this is not intended to be a summary plan description.

At and after the close of a merger, the amount of your accrued benefit from the Retirement Plan will not be reduced and the remaining period for payment under your chosen option will remain the same. Your check will continue to be sent to you each month. It's possible that it will have a different look or logo.

EchoStar has agreed with HUGHES to continue to provide retiree medical coverage to eligible retirees and eligible dependents under age 65, while medical coverage is offered to active employees of the new merged company.

In addition, you continue to have up to five years from your retirement date (or until the expiration of the grant, if sooner) to exercise vested stock options.

If the EchoStar merger is approved and a merger takes place, you will receive more information about the transition of your benefits delivery and the administration of your current plans. Thank you for your interest in the future of HUGHES and your patience as we navigate through this transition.

Sincerely,

/s/ Pamela Hymel

Pamela Hymel, MD  
Vice President, Human Resources

In connection with the proposed transactions, General Motors Corporation ("GM"), HEC Holdings, Inc. ("Hughes Holdings") and EchoStar Communications Corporation ("EchoStar") have filed amended preliminary materials with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), including a Registration Statement of Hughes Holdings on Form S-4 that contains a consent solicitation statement/information

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statement/prospectus. These materials are not yet final and will be further amended. Holders of GM \$1-2/3 and GM Class H common stock are urged to read the definitive versions of these materials, as well as any other relevant documents filed or that will be filed with the SEC, as they become available, because these documents contain or will contain important information. The preliminary materials, the definitive versions of these materials and other relevant materials (when they become available), and any other documents filed by GM, Hughes Electronics Corporation ("Hughes"), Hughes Holdings or EchoStar with the SEC may be obtained for free at the SEC's website, [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov), and GM stockholders will receive information at an appropriate time on how to obtain transaction-related documents for free from GM.

GM and its directors and executive officers, Hughes and certain of its officers, and EchoStar and certain of its executive officers may be deemed to be participants in GM's solicitation of consents from the holders of GM \$1-2/3 common stock and GM Class H common stock in connection with the proposed transactions. Information regarding the participants and their interests in the solicitation was filed pursuant to Rule 425 with the SEC by EchoStar on November 1, 2001 and by each of GM and Hughes on November 16, 2001. Investors may obtain additional information regarding the interests of the participants by reading the amended preliminary consent solicitation statement/information statement/prospectus filed with the SEC and the definitive consent solicitation statement/information statement/prospectus when it becomes available.

This communication shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offering of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Materials included in this document contain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause our actual results to be materially different from historical results or from any future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The factors that could cause actual results of GM, EchoStar, Hughes, or a combined EchoStar and Hughes, to differ materially, many of which are beyond the control of EchoStar, Hughes, Hughes Holdings or GM include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) the businesses of EchoStar and Hughes may not be integrated successfully or such integration may be more difficult, time-consuming or costly than expected; (2) expected benefits and synergies from the combination may not be realized within the expected time frame or at all; (3) revenues following the transaction may be lower than expected; (4) operating costs, customer loss and business disruption including, without limitation, difficulties in maintaining relationships with employees, customers, clients or suppliers, may be greater than expected following the transaction; (5) generating the incremental growth in the subscriber base of the combined company may be more costly or difficult than expected; (6) the regulatory approvals required for the transaction may not be obtained on the terms expected or on the anticipated schedule; (7) the effects of legislative and regulatory changes; (8) an inability to obtain certain retransmission consents; (9) an inability to retain necessary authorizations from the FCC; (10) an increase in competition from cable as a result of digital cable or otherwise, direct broadcast satellite, other satellite system operators, and other providers of subscription television services; (11) the introduction of new technologies and competitors into the subscription television business; (12) changes in labor, programming, equipment and capital costs; (13) future acquisitions, strategic partnership and divestitures; (14) general business and economic conditions; and (15) other risks described from time to time in periodic reports filed by EchoStar, Hughes or GM with the Securities and

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Exchange Commission. You are urged to consider statements that include the words "may," "will," "would," "could," "should," "believes," "estimates," "projects," "potential," "expects," "plans," "anticipates," "intends," "continues," "forecast," "designed," "goal," or the negative of those words or other comparable words to be uncertain and forward-looking. This cautionary statement applies to all forward-looking statements included in this document.