

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person  
 Bahr, Ira  
 5701 S. Santa Fe Drive  
 Littleton, CO 80120  
 U.S.A
2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year)  
 1/8/01
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
4. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 EchoStar Communications Corporation  
 DISH
5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  
 Director  10% Owner  Officer (give title below)  Other  
 (specify below)  
 Senior Vice President of Marketing
6. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)
7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned | 3. Ownership Form: Direct(D) or Indirect(I) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership |
|----------------------|--|---|--|
| No securities owned  |  |   |  |

Table II -- Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Derivative Security      | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct(D) or Indirect(I) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | (1) (2)  | Class A Common Stock                         | 100,000 \$22.75  | D  |  |

Explanation of Responses:  
 (1) The shares underlying the option, listed in column 3, vest at a rate of 20% per year, commencing on December 31, 2001.  
 (2) The option expires ten years from the grant date on December 31, 2000.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON  
 /s/ Ira Bahr  
 DATE  
 1/24/01