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April 18, 1997

EDGAR TRANSMISSION
Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20549

RE: SPARTAN MOTORS, INC.
COMMISSION FILE NO. 0-13611
REGISTRATION FILE NO.: 333-25357
REQUEST FOR DELAYED EFFECTIVENESS

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter hereby requests that the effective date of a Form S-3 Registration Statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (Registration File No. 333-25357) of Spartan Motors, Inc. ("Spartan") to register 200,000 shares of Common Stock of Spartan for the sale to Outside Market Advisors pursuant to the Spartan Motors, Inc. 1996 Stock Option and Restricted Stock Plan for Outside Market Advisors be delayed until the Registrant shall file an amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to Section 8(a) may determine.

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If the Commission has any comments or requires any further information, please call me at (616) 752-2137.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Stephen C. Waterbury

Stephen C. Waterbury