PRESS STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN MICHAEL K. POWELL

Re: Spectrum Policy Task Force Report

Last June I announced the creation of the Spectrum Policy Task Force, an effort to take a fresh look at the Commission's spectrum allocation and management policy. Since its inception, the Task Force has issued a groundbreaking Report that proposed recommendations about ways to revise the FCC's spectrum management policies and practices. Today, the Task Force reported on the accomplishments and status of those recommendations and highlighted the ongoing and future spectrum policy reform initiatives that are underway at the Commission. As promised, this is not a Report that has gathered dust on a shelf. Rather, the Spectrum Policy Task Force Report has provided the intellectual and policy foundation for the Commission's spectrum work.

The Spectrum Policy Task Force Report has demonstrated an ability to be a catalyst for significant spectrum policy reform in the U.S. and around the world. The Report's findings, recommendations and ideas have resonated in this new, technology-driven global economy; we can no longer suffer under decades-old spectrum policy regimes that hinder, rather than promote, innovation.

The Commission has considered and incorporated the Task Force's findings and recommendations in a number of spectrum allocation and licensing proceedings, including the Unlicensed National Information Infrastructure (UNII) Report and Order and the Interference Temperature item adopted today.

I am grateful for the support of my colleagues and am pleased with our progress thus far in beginning the implementation of the Task Force recommendations, but there is still a lot of work to be done. I look forward to building on the Task Force's already impressive set of accomplishments.