STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN JULIUS GENACHOWSKI

Re: In the Matter of a Cyber Security Certification Program, Docket No. 10-93

More and more of our Nation's daily business depends on our broadband communications infrastructure. Companies large and small, and in every sector of the economy, including hospitals and other health care facilities, increasingly rely on communications networks to do their daily work. But for communications networks to remain a platform for global opportunity and prosperity, it is essential that end users of all types – consumers, and businesses large and small – remain confident that our global networks are safe and secure.

Increasingly, however, our communications networks are under attack. Viruses, denial of service attacks, harmful spam, and a host of other threats challenge end users and network operators. To ensure that consumers and businesses are fully protected from attacks that affect or occur over the communications infrastructure, the National Broadband Plan recommended that the Commission initiate a proceeding to establish a cyber security certification program and other incentive programs. The goal is to create incentives for broadband communications service providers to upgrade their cyber security measures.

This Notice of Inquiry represents an initial and necessary step to implementing this recommendation and enhancing the cyber security of our Nation's communications systems.