STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MEREDITH ATTWELL BAKER

Re: Cyber Security Certification Program, Notice of Inquiry, PS Docket No. 10-93

I am pleased the prominence we are giving cyber security as we begin implementation of the National Broadband Plan. One of the core challenges of the broadband world is how do we safeguard and protect our networks and data from cyber security threats. We are faced by a troubling trend of escalating efforts – both organized and individual – to destroy, steal, harm or alter online data and networks. If online content is not safe, the promise of the National Broadband Plan to enable substantial advancements in business, energy, health care, and education will not be achieved.

As we proceed, my hope is our consideration of these issues track closely with the recommendations and work of our recently chartered Communications Security, Reliability, and Interoperability Council (CSRIC), and any decisions are made in close coordination with other governmental efforts, particularly those of the Department of Homeland Security. We should ensure our actions do not add additional layers of requirements or duplicative obligations on providers. Further, any Commission action – whether mandatory or voluntary – must ensure that network operators retain the flexibility and adaptability to respond to evolving cybersecurity threats and to innovate in their network operations.