

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS**

Re: Implementation of Section 224 of the Act, WC Docket No. 07-245, A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN Docket No. 09-51

There may be those who think the issues surrounding pole attachments are less than totally captivating and compelling, but that wouldn't be us, would it? "In-the-weeds" though it may often be, good pole attachment policy is integral to ensuring ubiquitous and robust broadband deployment. I may not have been a believer when I walked through these portals nine years ago, but I'm a believer now.

I am pleased that the National Broadband Plan recognizes, and places a priority on, these issues. The Commission has had opportunities to get this done before and somehow we didn't. So I am pleased with today's *Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* and hope that the Commission will move forward expeditiously with this proceeding.

The Order correctly clarifies the statutory right of pole attachers to non-discriminatory and timely access to poles. And I am pleased with the *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking's* thorough inquiry into pole attachment access, enforcement and rates. I look forward to quickly completing a record upon which the Commission can act, and I am pleased to support this item.