

## STATEMENT OF ACTING FCC CHAIRWOMAN MIGNON L. CLYBURN

*Re: Comprehensive Review of Licensing and Operating Rules for Satellite Services, IB Docket No. 12-267*

It may not get the press attention of 4G LTE wireless services or Gigabit fiber networks, but the satellite industry is a \$190-billion-a-year business and an important part of the communications sector. Satellite service can be offered in areas where there is no terrestrial infrastructure and the costs of deploying a fiber or microwave network are prohibitive. It can also provide additional bandwidth in areas where existing infrastructure is outdated, heavily congested, or damaged by natural disasters. Fixed and mobile satellite services offered important temporary solutions in the immediate aftermath of the 9/11 attacks and for weeks after Hurricane Katrina.

So it is with this Order, that the International Bureau continues its excellent work to update and streamline the Part 25 rules to facilitate rapid deployment of new commercial satellite services to the public. We began the process of updating Part 25, in January of 2010, by issuing a Public Notice seeking comment on changes that would merely clarify rules or make corrections and in 2012, we adopted those modest changes. But building upon the recommendations of the industry, we also issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that set forth comprehensive changes to Part 25's rules. Today, I am pleased that we are revising more than 150 rule sections and these changes include: updating filing requirements for space and earth stations to reflect evolving technology; eliminating filing requirements that are no longer needed; increasing the number of earth station applications eligible for streamlined processing; and providing greater flexibility to earth station applicants in complying with rules on antenna performance. Overhauling these requirements for annual reporting, licensing, and filing, should lead to substantial reductions in the administrative costs necessary to offer satellite services. This, in turn, should lead to greater investment in enhanced benefits for consumers.

I thank Mindel De La Torre and the International Bureau for their outstanding work throughout this proceeding.