**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:**

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**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI**

**ON PUBLIC NOTICE SCHEDULING H-BLOCK AUCTION FOR JANUARY 2014**

This summer, I proposed that the H-Block auction start on January 14, 2014,[[1]](#footnote-1) and I applaud Chairwoman Clyburn and the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau for today’s Public Notice announcing that the auction will commence on that date. Bringing this valuable 10 MHz of paired spectrum into the commercial marketplace as soon as possible will benefit Americans in two ways. First, it will help deliver bandwidth-intensive mobile services and applications. Second, the proceeds of the auction will provide much-needed revenue for the First Responder Network Authority to build out a nationwide, interoperable broadband public safety network. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure a successful auction four months hence.

1. Remarks of Commissioner Ajit Pai in Pittsburgh, PA, “Looking Back and Looking Ahead: The FCC and the Path to the Digital Economy” (July 25, 2013), http://go.usa.gov/D8sY. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)