STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN

Re: Report by the Staff Working Group on FCC Process Reform

The Chairman is to be commended for launching an initiative on process reform, and shepherding it along at a rapid, but responsible pace. As anyone who has been involved in these types of endeavors can attest, this is no small feat. Success hinges on the embrace, participation and inclusion of the entire enterprise--from the mail room to the board room, from the guard's desk to the Chair's desk.

I know the team leading this effort has been working intensively over a very short period of time and Special Counsel, Diane Cornell, is to be commended for her tireless efforts. I appreciate the spirit and openness with which you have worked to gather information and input, especially in expanding the focus groups to include everyone in this agency.

As we move along this path, I believe it is important to be guided by a few basic truths. While there always will be room for improvement, this agency can and should be proud of its record of performance and production, amidst some incredibly challenging sets of conditions. We continued our work during times when human and financial resources were stretched thin, and our capacity restrained. Our dedicated staff and professionals managed to draw upon a deep reservoir of hard work and old-fashioned resolve, to keep our nation's communications apparatus forward moving while adhering to our commitment to act in the public interest.

And finally, Mr. Chairman, I believe process reforms, if successful, will further distinguish this agency as a model of efficiency and responsiveness at a time when our Government is rightly focused on greater accountability, integrity and responsibility.

Again, thanks to Diane Cornell, Ruth Milkman and the entire Staff Working Group, for such a worthy endeavor.