

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN**

Re: *Presentation by Incentive Auction Task Force*

A couple of weeks ago, I met with my newly appointed communications counterparts in Mexico, and three things were reaffirmed for me. First, when your day job is in Washington, DC, Mexico City is a great place to visit in January. Second, our regulatory neighbors truly appreciate this agency's coordination efforts, on the 600 MHz band issues, and recognize how this can offer mutual benefits to both countries. Third, as Mexico undertakes a comprehensive effort to implement sweeping constitutional reforms, in part, to promote competition, it will closely monitor the principles we use to implement the world's first ever voluntary reverse incentive auction.

Despite the several technical and policy questions that implementing this auction may raise, I commend the Task Force for remaining focused on the unprecedented opportunity it offers to strengthen both our mobile and broadcast industries. During disasters, such as Super Storm Sandy, broadcasters, or first informers are the only means by which citizens received critical information. When trying to implement a challenging regulatory initiative, it is important, I believe, for an agency to engage all stakeholders, in order to resolve the most complicated issues.

I am pleased to note that this has been one of the top, guiding principles for this Task Force since the beginning. On the more difficult issues, it is encouraging dialogue through several fora, including public notices, workshops, webinars, and *ex parte* meetings. In the past two months alone, the Task Force has released three Public Notices on the feasibility of reassigning TV stations to certain channels, inter-service interference, and geographic license areas for the forward auction.

This morning, I was particularly pleased to hear that the staff will: launch a more targeted outreach and education program for broadcasters, keep an open record policy on all issues, exhaustively test the auctions program, and continue to engage stakeholders after the Report and Order and until the auction is held.

I commend the stakeholders who have engaged constructively in this proceeding. Gary, Bill, Roger, Mindel, and Matthew, thank you for preparing this morning's update.