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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** February 27, 2014 CONTACT: Matthew Berry (202) 418-2005 Email: <u>Matthew.Berry@fcc.gov</u>

## STATEMENT OF FCC COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI ON CLOSING OF H BLOCK AUCTION

I am pleased that the Commission has completed its first spectrum auction in six years. This was no easy task. In light of once intractable issues surrounding the H Block, the Commission worked together, took steps to ensure that the auction would yield maximum revenue, and refrained from saddling the spectrum with unnecessary conditions. As a result, we have raised \$1.564 billion from spectrum that used to be viewed as almost worthless. While I might not have agreed with every single decision that was made in connection with this auction, I believe that commencing this auction in January was the right call and applaud then-Chairwoman Clyburn for her decision to do so. I also commend the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau for its hard work on this important endeavor, and I thank Congress for its leadership in helping to get this spectrum into the market.