



NEWS

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See *MCI v. FCC*, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

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STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI ON THE PULLING OF THE AWS-3 COORDINATION ITEM FROM COMMISSION CONSIDERATION

When you're told that you must vote on an item *before* you can learn what you're voting on, something is very wrong. But regrettably, this is just the latest breakdown in process at the Federal Communications Commission.

Recently, I received a draft order that purported to change some of the AWS-3 geographic coordination zones adopted by the FCC back in March.¹ But there was a catch. The draft did not say what the relevant new zones would look like. So I asked for the answers to two elementary questions. How does this document change the zones? And what are the new zones?

I had thought that these were quite reasonable inquiries. So I was surprised when my requests for this basic information were denied. Instead, I was told that *after* the Commission adopted the item, I would be briefed on the new zones.

My position is simple. I can't cast an informed vote on new coordination zones if I don't know what those coordination zones are. Voting first and then learning about what you've voted on is irresponsible.

Unfortunately, others disagreed; the item was pulled from the full Commission and pushed out at the Bureau level today.² This is no way to run a railroad.

¹ *Amendment of the Commission's Rules with Regard to Commercial Operations in the 1695–1710 MHz, 1755–1780 MHz, and 2155–2180 MHz Bands*, GN Docket No. 13-185, Report and Order, 29 FCC Rcd 4610 (2014).

² *The Federal Communications Commission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration: Coordination Procedures in the 1695-1710 MHz and 1755-1780 MHz Bands*, GN Docket No. 13-185, Public Notice, DA 14-1023 (July 18, 2014).