



# NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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## **STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN ON THE RESULTS OF THE AWS-3 AUCTION**

If you had conducted a poll of analysts before the start of the AWS-3 auction, the highest prediction given for its yield would not have exceeded \$18 billion. Seventy-seven days and a record setting \$44.89 billion later, Auction 97 has shown that demand for this spectrum was phenomenal. Some experts opine that the winning bid total is due in large part to bidding and other competitive strategies unique to this band. I believe one of the key factors for this unanticipated level of activity is that the AWS-3 bands are near the AWS-1 bands and there are already base stations and other equipment available. Once the FCC makes the bidding activity public, I suspect there will be many more stories about the results of this auction. Nevertheless, what we can all agree on is that the auction's success would not have been possible without the diligent efforts of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau staff, who worked in cooperation with NTIA, DoD and other federal agencies to substantially reduce the protection zones of federal operations in the 1755 and 1780 MHz band. I also want to commend Chairman Wheeler for developing a band plan with smaller license blocks and geographic license areas, and crafting a strong interoperability mandate to encourage robust participation by both small and large entities.

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