



# 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. Cir. 1974).

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## **STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI ON THE COMPLETION OF THE AWS-3 AUCTION**

The AWS-3 auction has been a historic success, raising almost \$45 billion in provisionally winning bids. This is great news for several reasons. The auction will help us fund the national priorities identified by Congress, including deficit reduction, the advancement of wireless public safety communications, the deployment of NG911, and FirstNet. It will help the wireless industry meet exploding consumer demand. And it will broaden the American platform for wireless innovation, already the world's envy.

We can already draw a few lessons from the AWS-3 auction, beyond the obvious fact there is intense demand for mid-band spectrum. The most important is that the way the FCC structures an auction matters. In AWS-3, we made the rules as simple as possible. We maintained open eligibility. And we auctioned off spectrum that was internationally harmonized for commercial use. These decisions yielded robust competition and helped maximize revenues. I hope we take a similar approach in future auctions.

I would like to thank those in government and the private sector who labored for years to make this auction a success. Freeing up this spectrum for commercial use will go a long way toward ensuring that American consumers will continue to benefit from the world's leading wireless networks.