STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER BRENDAN CARR

Re: Update to Parts 2 and 25 Concerning Non-Geostationary, Fixed-Satellite Service Systems and Related Matters, IB Docket No. 16-408

We have seen a tremendous amount of innovation in the satellite sector over the past few years. One result is that companies are now proposing to launch a new generation of constellations. These large and ambitious new systems have the potential to introduce additional competition into the market, bring affordable broadband to more consumers, and become part of our 5G future.

But, in order for consumers to realize these benefits, the Commission's rules must keep pace with these technological advances. Today's Order does just that. While the details are certainly complex, the bottom line is that we take rules that are more than a decade old and bring them into the modern era. In the process, we remove regulatory barriers and help promote the deployment of new satellite systems. Indeed, by updating and streamlining our rules, we give satellite operators more flexibility to design and deploy their systems and more regulatory certainty as they continue to invest and innovate.

For these reasons, this item has my support. And I also want to note this Order required a lot of hard work by the agency's staff, and I thank them for their efforts.