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## For Immediate Release

## FCC TAKES STEPS TO FACILITATE NEXT GENERATION WIRELESS TECHNOLOGIES IN SPECTRUM ABOVE 24 GHZ

WASHINGTON, November 16, 2017—The FCC took additional steps today to make available spectrum above 24 GHz to help ensure American leadership in wireless broadband, which represents a critical component of economic growth, job creation, public safety, and global competitiveness.

This high-frequency spectrum will support innovative new uses enabled by fiber-fast wireless speeds and extremely low latency. In recent years, technological advances have increased the ability to harness millimeter wave (mmW) technology for fixed and mobile wireless communications in high band spectrum, while demand for connected products and services continues to grow. The actions taken today will allow for the development of innovative services to the benefit of the public.

Specifically, the items adopted today:

- Makes available an additional 1700 megahertz of millimeter wave (mmW) spectrum for terrestrial 5G wireless use;
- Maintains the unlicensed use of the 64-71 GHz band, and modifies Part 15 rules to allow unlicensed operation on board most aircraft during flight in the 57-71 GHz band;
- Maintains spectrum in the 48.2-50.2 GHz and 40-42 GHz bands for satellite use;
- Adjusts the earth station siting rules in core terrestrial wireless bands to provide incentives to
  site satellite earth stations in less populated areas while continuing to limit the potential for
  interference of satellite operations to mobile wireless use in these bands; and
- Declines to cap the amount of spectrum in the 24 GHz and 47 GHz bands that a bidder can acquire in an auction, and incorporates these two bands into the previously-adopted mmW spectrum threshold for reviewing proposed secondary market transactions.

In addition, the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:

- Proposes to allow more flexible FSS (fixed-satellite service) use of the 24.75-25.25 GHz band;
- Seeks comment on another option for terrestrial mmW licensees to meet performance obligations, which could accommodate IoT deployments and other innovative services; and
- Proposes to eliminate the cap on the amount of spectrum in the 28, 37, and 39 GHz bands that a bidder can acquire in an auction.

Action by the Commission November 16, 2017 by Second Report and Order, Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Order on Reconsideration, and Memorandum Opinion and Order (FCC 17-152). Chairman Pai, Commissioners O'Rielly, Carr and Rosenworcel approving. Commissioner Clyburn approving in part and dissenting in part. Chairman Pai, Commissioners Clyburn, O'Rielly, Carr and Rosenworcel issuing separate statements.

## GN Docket No. 14-177; IB Docket No. 15-256; WT Docket No. 10-112; IB Docket No 97-95

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