

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN**

Re: *Channel Lineup Requirements – Sections 76.1705 and 76.1700(a)(4)*, MB Docket No. 18-92;
Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative, MB Docket No. 17-105

I have stated more than once how skeptical I am of many of the majority's current attempts to "modernize media regulation," by systematically rolling back rules and requirements impacting broadcasters. And while I still worry that the cumulative effects leave consumers worse off, as I have also said, so long as the public interest is served, I will support the examination of certain rules to determine whether they remain useful or necessary.

Today's item proposes to remove a requirement that cable systems retain a copy of their channel lineup in their local offices. If this rule change is adopted, cable providers will still be required to maintain channel lineup information that can be shared with subscribers "at the time of installation, at least annually, and at any time upon request." I do not object to seeking comment and, if the record shows that the current requirement is redundant or unnecessary, then we should act accordingly.

I am wary, however, about questions on whether cable channel lineup information should also be removed from the online public inspection files of these cable systems. Migrating public files of broadcasters and cable systems online stands out to me as a success story—demonstrating the Commission's ability to leverage the internet and technology to improve transparency. In fact, this item justifies removing channel lineups from local offices, in part, by pointing out that consumers can access this information using the online public inspection files hosted on the Commission's website. Consumers should have access to more information, not less, and collecting information about entities we regulate then sharing it with the public is a core function of the agency. I would have concerns with efforts to diminish the value of our online public inspection file database for consumers, and will review the record on this point with interest.

That said, I vote to approve this NPRM, which allows the Commission to seek comment on the proposals and questions that it presents. I thank the Media Bureau for its work on this item.