



**Media Contact:**

Tina Pelkey, (202) 418-0536  
tina.pelkey@fcc.gov

**For Immediate Release**

**STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN PAI ON  
HURRICANE MICHAEL RESTORATION EFFORTS**

WASHINGTON, October 16, 2018—Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai issued the following statement regarding restoration efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael:

“Even though efforts to restore communications services have been going well in most of the areas affected by Hurricane Michael, the slow progress in restoring wireless service in areas close to where the hurricane made landfall is completely unacceptable. While the FCC has been in regular contact with companies serving the affected areas, I’m concerned that their actions on the ground aren’t matching the urgency that we have conveyed during those conversations. I am therefore joining Governor Scott in calling on wireless carriers to waive the bills of Floridians in these affected areas for the month of October and to allow them to change carriers without penalty. These carriers also need to immediately disclose publicly to Floridians how they will quickly restore service. In addition, I have directed our Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau to promptly initiate an investigation into this matter.”

For more information about the FCC’s actions related to Hurricane Michael, please visit [www.fcc.gov/michael](http://www.fcc.gov/michael).

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**Office of Chairman Ajit Pai: (202) 418-1000**  
**Twitter: @AjitPaiFCC**  
**[www.fcc.gov/leadership/ajit-pai](http://www.fcc.gov/leadership/ajit-pai)**

*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).*