CHAIRMAN PAI STATEMENT ON JUSTICE DEPARTMENT’S PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF T-MOBILE/SPRINT MERGER

WASHINGTON, July 26, 2019—The U.S. Department of Justice today filed a proposed settlement in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia that, if approved by the court, would resolve the Department’s concerns about the purchase by T-Mobile US, Inc. of Sprint Corp. Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai issued the following statement:

“I am pleased that the U.S. Department of Justice has reached a settlement with T-Mobile and Sprint. The commitments made to the FCC by T-Mobile and Sprint to deploy a 5G network that would cover 99% of the American people, along with the measures outlined in the Department’s consent decree, will advance U.S. leadership in 5G and protect competition. In addition, the transaction has garnered bipartisan support, including from Governor Laura Kelly (D-KS), Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (D-CA), and former FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn.

“Because of this transaction’s potential to help close the digital divide in rural America and maintain our nation’s leadership in 5G, as well as the commitments made by T-Mobile and Sprint to the FCC, I plan to present my colleagues soon with a draft order, consistent with the Department’s filings, favorably resolving the FCC’s review of the transaction.”

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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).