

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN MICHAEL K. POWELL**

RE: In the Matter of Proposed Changes in the Commission's Rules Regarding Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields

Today's action takes an important step in updating our radiofrequency environmental exposure rules to reflect technological change. Our action is part of the Commission's Environmental and Historic Preservation Action Plan that I announced earlier this month. The goal of the plan is to improve our ability to fulfill our obligations under the National Environmental Protection Act, while at the same time accelerating the process of deploying necessary communications infrastructure. Integral to this effort is ensuring that our radiofrequency exposure limits keep pace with the rapid innovation in the spectrum-based services marketplace. Our current rules date back to the mid-1990s. Since our current rules were adopted in the mid-1990s, it has become apparent that certain provisions may warrant further revision to clarify the responsibilities of our licensees and to ensure compliance with the FCC limits in a more practical, reasonable and efficient manner. This NPRM makes several proposals to accomplish that goal.