

**STATEMENT OF  
COMMISSIONER JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN**

*Re: Rechannelization of the 17.7-19.7 GHz Frequency Band for Fixed Microwave Services under Part 101 of the Commission's Rules; Report and Order, WT Docket No. 04-143*

Earlier this year, in a speech to the National Spectrum Managers Association, I noted that the Commission was long overdue on ruling on a petition to rechannelize the 18 GHz band. While this item may be a little "under the radar screen," it is a long-awaited decision for the fixed wireless community, and I wholeheartedly support our action today.

Our item serves dual purposes. Not only will it facilitate relocation of fixed microwave facilities in and around the band, equally as important, our decision puts in place a new channelization plan for the 18 GHz band that promotes spectrum efficiency by allowing licensees to use smaller channels for the capacity needs. As the demand for spectrum grows on a daily basis, the Commission should always do what we can to encourage more efficient use of the spectrum resource.