

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS**

*Re: FCC Seeks Public Comment on Creation of a Spectrum Sharing Innovation Test-Bed, ET
Docket No. 06-89*

I firmly support encouraging federal and non-federal users to develop new ways to share spectrum. Indeed, I have great faith in our nation's engineers and inventors, who have consistently found ways to extract ever greater value from a fixed quantity of spectrum. Given this admirable record of innovation – awe-inspiring is not too strong a word – I believe it would be irresponsible for us *not* to investigate the questions we raise today.

I do have some concern, however, about the fact that we are initiating this process two years after the Commerce Department's recommendation.¹ I hope that our late start will not prevent us from meeting the June 2008 recommended deadline for delivering a report outlining the results of this program and suggesting appropriate expansions.²

¹ See *Spectrum Policy for the 21st Century – The President's Spectrum Policy Initiative: Report 1 (Recommendation 11)*, U.S. Department of Commerce (2004), available at http://www.ntia.doc.gov/reports/specpolini/presspecpolini_report1_06242004.htm.

² *Id.*