

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN**

Re: *Service Rules for Advanced Wireless Services in the 2155-2175 MHz Band*, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

Today, the Commission finally is initiating a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that seeks comment on service rules for the 2155-2175 MHz band. It has been several years since the Commission designated this spectrum for use by advanced wireless services and over a year since parties first expressed specific interest in seeking authority to operate in the band. As we have heard over the past 18 months, this band holds great promise for operators to introduce new offerings of innovative wireless broadband services to American consumers.

But unused spectrum is a lost opportunity. While I would have preferred that we address the keen interest carriers already have demonstrated in the 2155-2175 MHz band much sooner than today, I nevertheless am pleased that we are finally moving forward to put into place the framework for the innovative and efficient use of this spectrum.

I have talked many times in the past about my belief that wireless broadband is one of the keys to economic growth in this digital information age. It is a key that can open the door to educational and economic opportunities to communities across America, enriching people's lives. So I cannot emphasize enough the important responsibility we have to make vibrant, spectrum-based communications opportunities, like those presented by the 2155-2175 MHz band, available to more consumers and companies. The Commission has to do what it can to promote opportunities to expand wireless connectivity and to ensure that available and desired spectrum is put to use in a timely fashion. In this regard, I am pleased that we are committing to conclude this proceeding and make this spectrum available in a fixed timeframe, although I would have preferred to do it sooner.