

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE**

Re: Service Rules for Advanced Wireless Services in the 2155-2175 MHz Band

The rules we adopt today for the 2155-2175 MHz band represent our continuing commitment to ensure the availability of spectrum for innovative and advanced services, especially broadband services. This band is the third piece of the Advanced Wireless Services (AWS) spectrum, and thus also known as the AWS-3 band. As the name indicates, this AWS spectrum may enable advanced services like gaming, live video, rapid surfing of the Internet, and the downloading of massive data files for shared research – all wirelessly. In short, this spectrum is an important national resource which will serve providers and customers that need and want such advanced services, no matter where they may be.

A number of extremely creative proposals to use this spectrum have been submitted to the Commission. I have found many of these proposals to be very intriguing, not least because they demonstrate the incredible variety of ways in which diverse business interests consider using the AWS-3 band. Precisely because there are so many creative ideas about how to use such valuable spectrum, I support today's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to move the Commission forward in determining the most appropriate service rules for the band.

I appreciate discussions about how our policy choices may lower the cost of broadband service to consumers. I also appreciate the value of a "family friendly" provider of broadband services and encourage input as to how the Commission should balance the needs of families in protecting their children with constitutional and statutory requirements. In addition, I wish to encourage a healthy discussion of other potential obligations, which could include performance requirements to help promote service in rural areas and more opportunities for services to enhance public safety. For all of these potential obligations, I intend to consider such policies in light of the decisions the Commission already has made for rules pertaining to other valuable spectrum, especially the other AWS bands and the 700 MHz band.

I agree with my colleagues who urge that the rules for this band be established as quickly as possible in order to launch new services that may benefit consumers. The sooner we establish appropriate rules and make this spectrum available, the sooner providers may be able to make available advanced services that enable consumers to be more productive in their jobs, acquire information they need to benefit their health or quality of life, and educate and entertain themselves and their families.

Accordingly, I support today's Notice and look forward to prompt yet thorough consideration of the important issues in this proceeding. I also thank the staff of the Wireless Bureau for all their work on this item.