

**STATEMENT  
COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. McDOWELL**

*Re: Inquiry Concerning the Deployment of Advanced Telecommunications Capability to All Americans in a Reasonable and Timely Fashion, and Possible Steps to Accelerate Such Deployment Pursuant to Section 706 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996,  
GN Docket No. 07-45, Notice of Inquiry*

By adopting these two items, we are taking important steps to update and refine the Commission's efforts to determine the current state of broadband deployment in the U.S., including the market, investment and technological trends of advanced telecommunications capabilities. In the *Data Collection Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, we seek comment on how we can further refine our information collection on broadband deployment to more accurately reflect service to rural areas and to include advanced wireless technologies. In the *Section 706 Notice of Inquiry*, we expect to receive comments that will focus our understanding of how to define advanced telecommunications capability, the status of deployment of broadband capability to all Americans, the reasonableness and timeliness of the current level of deployment, and what actions can or should be taken to accelerate deployment. I look forward to receiving the comments in both of these proceedings as part of the Commission's ongoing effort to continue to increase the rate of broadband penetration and foster more choices for all types of consumers. We should continue to seize every opportunity to move America forward in this important area.