

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. MCDOWELL**

Re: Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2008, MD Docket No. 08-65

In this Order, among other things, we agree to reform our methodology for calculating regulatory fees for international bearer circuits within 60 days of adoption of the Order. The Commission has been reviewing this issue for three years. We have heard and considered the proposals and views of the relevant parties -- common carriers and companies with submarine cable interests and cable landing licenses. It is time for the Commission to make a decision that makes sense given the incredible expansion of capacity on these systems in relation to the regulatory costs generated by the operators. I look forward to finding a solution that will result in lower regulatory fees and that will treat providers in a nondiscriminatory and competitively neutral manner.

The Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking seeks comment on several issues regarding the calculation of fees for interstate telecommunications service providers, international and interstate toll services, digital broadcasters, IPTV and DBS providers, cable operators and private land mobile radio services. I look forward to hearing from all of you on these issues.