

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN**

Re: *In the Matter of Amendment of the Commission's Ex Parte Rules and Other Procedural Rules*, GC Docket No. 10-43; *In the Matter of Amendment of Certain of the Commission's Part 1 Rules of Practice and Procedure and Part 0 Rules of Commission Organization*, GC Docket No. 10-44

When Chairman Genachowski assumed the helm of the agency, he made clear that one of his top priorities was to “reboot” the FCC. These two items fulfill his commitment to improve our processes in a manner that benefits the Commission staff, individuals and entities that interact with the Commission, and ultimately, consumers.

One of the most important steps the Chairman has taken in seeking to reform our internal procedures is to look, well, inward. Mary Beth Richards and Steve VanRoekel have solicited feedback from employees throughout the agency who are intimately familiar with the challenges of keeping things running smoothly. As a result, we were able to identify a number of material measures designed to improve and modernize the agency.

I am particularly interested in receiving comments on our Notice concerning the Commission's ex parte rules. It is essential that the substance of *ex parte* presentations are made public in an accessible manner. This is imperative not only for purposes of judicial review, but also to encourage meaningful public participation. If we are serious about increasing transparency – and I believe each of us is – it is critical that we give the public a window into the information we receive. That window must not only illuminate exactly what was covered in those meetings, but must also be opened in a timely fashion. Our rules must account equally for sophisticated repeat players and those who are seeking to register input with the Commission for the first time.

The Sunshine period is another significant area of inquiry. I would like to know how commenters believe we can best balance our need for information with legitimate concerns about the potential for abuse. While it can be useful for Commission staff to touch base with outside parties during the days immediately preceding an important vote, there undoubtedly are valid concerns about the nature and disclosure of such contacts. These are areas worthy of our undivided attention.

I thank the Chairman and his staff, as well as the Offices of the Managing Director and General Counsel for producing this thoughtful item.