

**STATEMENT OF
ACTING CHAIRWOMAN MIGNON L. CLYBURN**

Re: *Revision of Part 15 of the Commission's Rules Regarding Operation in the 57-64 GHz Band*, ET Docket No. 07-113 and RM-11104

For years, the Commission has championed the concept of opening higher spectrum bands to encourage the development of new products and services. Spectrum above 1 GHz, which was once thought to be inappropriate for consumer products, now supports many innovative devices on an unlicensed basis, such as Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, cordless phones, and even baby monitors. Roughly fifteen years ago, the Commission opened spectrum in the 57-64 GHz band, for the development of unlicensed, short-range devices. Those seeds that were planted, over a decade ago, are just now beginning to blossom with the introduction of Wi-Gig technology that can carry data at gigabit per second speeds over short distances for consumer products.

By making a number of changes to the technical requirements, today's item takes another important step to encourage the technological development in these spectrum bands. For example, increasing the emission limits for outdoor fixed applications will extend the reach of fiber optic networks, and promote broadband backhaul links between cellular base stations.

Tapping into the lightly used upper reaches of the spectrum is an important component in our overall strategy for meeting the high bandwidth demands of tomorrow's networks. It will also help promote expansion of wireless broadband services to rural areas of our country.

Eliminating the requirement for transmitting ID information will promote greater use of wireless-personal-area-networking – or WPAN-- devices. These are the devices that currently allow your personal computer to connect with your HD TV and your Blu-Ray digital video recorders. Today's Order allows manufacturers to reduce administrative costs and invest in greater technological innovation. I am excited to see what future developers will come up with next.

Our Technological Advisory Council has a Working Group on spectrum frontiers that is looking at ways to identify spectrum bands, which have the potential to become the new "beachfronts," and to assess technical or policy changes necessary to enable use of this spectrum. We look forward to receiving those recommendations later this year.

I commend Julie Knapp and his talented staff in the Office of Engineering and Technology for presenting us with another terrific item.