STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER JESSICA ROSENWORCEL

Re: Amendment of Parts 0, 1, 2, and 15 of the Commission's Rules regarding Authorization of Radiofrequency Equipment; Amendment of Part 68 regarding Approval of Terminal Equipment by Telecommunications Certification Bodies

The demand for our airwaves continues to accelerate. According to recent projections, in the next five years, mobile data traffic will be thirteen times what it is right now. But it is important to keep in mind that the way we use our mobile devices today is just the beginning, because 50 billion interconnected devices and the Internet of Things are speeding our way before the end of the decade. They will remake the way we communicate—between people, between people and devices, and between our devices themselves.

So from upstream research to downstream testing, the Commission must make sure that its policies promote innovation and the smart use of spectrum. The good news is that today's rulemaking does just that. For the first time in over a decade, we are beginning to seriously explore how new radio equipment is approved. Under our existing rules, the review process can take months. But if we can safely and effectively streamline this process, we will be able to expedite the rate at which new devices reach the market. More than that, by combining an accelerated radio equipment approval process with the new experimental licensing system the Commission adopted last month, our policies can pack a powerful innovative punch—and promote the efficient use of spectrum. That's an outcome I am pleased to support.