

**STATEMENT OF  
ACTING CHAIRWOMAN MIGNON CLYBURN**

Re: ***Service Rules for Advanced Wireless Services H Block – Implementing Section 6401 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 Related to the 1915-1920 MHz and 1995-2000 MHz Bands, WT Docket No 12-357***

The mobile revolution shows no signs of stalling. In fact, by all accounts, it continues to gain incredible momentum. Fifteen percent of all global Internet traffic is mobile -- up from just one percent when I arrived at the Commission just under four years ago. In 2009, about 16 percent of Americans had smartphones. That number had risen to 56% by 2012, and we have every reason to believe it has trended upward in 2013. I've said it many times, but it still amazes me, that the commercial tablet market didn't even exist in 2009, but, a projected 229 million tablets will ship this year surpassing the sales for portable PCs.

These trends affirm how clear our job really is. The Commission must continue to ensure that the Nation's wireless networks have the capacity, speed, and ubiquity, to keep pace with consumers' expectations, and their ever rising demand, for mobile services. That is why the National Broadband Plan set an ambitious goal of freeing up 300 megahertz of spectrum for broadband by 2015, through the use of a variety of traditional strategies, and new policy innovations, like incentive auctions, spectrum sharing, and next-generation unlicensed use, and I am pleased to confirm, that the Commission is on track, to exceed this target.

The adoption of these rules, today, is a continuation of our important work, toward that goal. We are enabling 10 MHz of paired spectrum that makes up the H Block, for flexible use, including mobile broadband service. Specifically, we are adopting licensing, technical and service rules for the H Block that will allow the full 10 MHz, to be used for mobile broadband service, while providing adequate protection, to the neighboring bands. Importantly, the item adopts technical rules, to help ensure, that H Block operations do not cause harmful interference, to the PCS downlink spectrum, just as Congress directed.

This is no small feat. The FCC, led by our world-class engineers, has been working on a sensible approach to the use of this spectrum, since 2004. I for one am pleased that advances in wireless broadband technology have allowed us to craft rules, for the efficient use of the H block, finally allowing us to release this spectrum, into the marketplace.

With this item, the Commission takes another critical step, toward implementing the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 directive, to license 65 MHz of spectrum for flexible use by February 2015. It is also consistent with the President's encouragement to "expedite the repurposing of spectrum, and otherwise enable innovative and flexible commercial uses of spectrum, including broadband, to be deployed as rapidly as possible."

I'd like to thank my colleagues for their collaboration on this item, and also thank the staff of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, and Office of Engineering and Technology, for presenting us with such a thoughtful item.