CONCURRING STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN

Re: Urban One Broadcasting Network, LLC, Application for Construction Permit for New FM Station WURB(FM), at Cross City, Florida, Memorandum Opinion and Order.

While I vote to concur with this Order, I am concerned about situations where applicants seeking to provide their communities with local radio service are ultimately rejected because they are unable to construct within a rigid construction permit period. The Commission has an obligation to ensure that permittees do not engage in spectrum squatting and I fully support this, but we also need to balance the interest of bringing service listening public and the business needs of permittees. I am unsure if this balance is reached in all cases within three years, especially in instances, as is here, where the permittee acquired the station after the construction permit was initially granted, and did not have the full benefit of three years to construct a station.

We cannot effectuate change based on the limited facts of this case, but it is my hope that in the future we are able to conduct a more comprehensive review which takes into account the needs of consumers, permittees and those in the Commission that must enforce our rules. I would actually support a limited extension, perhaps six months in cases like this one, but my office is always willing to listen to those who have ideas for how to improve our processes and make them more accessible, especially to smaller organizations that have limited resources and are less familiar with our rules and application requirements.