STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN

Re: Review of the Commission's Part 95 Personal Radio Services Rules, WT Docket No. 10-119; Petition for Rulemaking of Garmin International, Inc., RM-10762; Petition for Rulemaking of Omnitronics, L.L.C., RM-10844

With this item, the Commission updates, reorganizes and streamlines our Part 95 rules to not only reflect changes in technology, but how Personal Radio Services (PRS) devices are used by the public. PRS devices are used for a variety of applications, including by hobbyists of remote-control model aircraft, those with hearing difficulties, first responders to locate lost persons, medical professionals to retrieve data from implanted medical devices, and of course, by families and groups who use walkie-talkies to communicate.

This reorganization results in rules that are clear, and easier for consumers to understand. Notably, it makes clear that devices labelled Personal Locator Beacons and Maritime Survivor Locating Devices, which are used to aid in locating those who are lost on land or in water, must meet specified technical standards in order to be marketed as such. This clarification will help ensure that all devices advertised with these terms provide the expected level of emergency location capability.

As a former CB radio and walkie-talkie enthusiast (short lived as it was), I wish to thank the staff of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau for your hard work on this item.