STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER ANNA M. GOMEZ

Re: Build America: Eliminating Barriers to Wireless Deployments, WT Docket No. 25-276, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Sept. 30, 2025).

Americans rely on wireless technology and infrastructure on a daily basis. The wireless connectivity that we have come to expect, whether to call a friend, email our doctor, make a dinner reservation, or keep an eye on the dog via the doggy cam, is possible thanks to physical infrastructure deployed around us. As with any infrastructure, building it involves negotiations between service providers and local governments.

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking before us seeks to make it easier to deploy necessary infrastructure that extends wireless communications for the benefit of communities across the country. Successful deployment requires collaboration, so I look forward to hearing from all stakeholders, including industry and local governments, about the proposals in this notice.

Additionally, I want to caution against getting sidetracked by attempts to fulfill a failed congressional effort and second-guess states that are placing guardrails on Artificial Intelligence. States can be important test labs for what may or may not work with emerging technologies like this one. Not to mention, our authority in this area is dubious at best, particularly after recent court decisions limiting our authority. We will be better served by focusing on the areas where we stand on firm legal ground.

Finally, thank you to the Office of the Chairman for incorporating my edits to this item, including seeking comment about our legal authority regarding Artificial Intelligence.