

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER OLIVIA TRUSTY**

Re: *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain through the Equipment Authorization Program*, Second Report and Order and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, ET Docket No. 21-232 (October 28, 2025).

Protecting the integrity of our nation's communications networks is a matter of national security. The actions we take today strengthen our commitment to the integrity of our networks by ensuring that equipment and components posing unacceptable risks to the United States are not authorized, marketed, or deployed in our communication systems.

With this Second Report and Order, we close potential loopholes in our equipment authorization process. We make clear that our rules apply not just to complete devices, but also to modular transmitters and components that can serve as the building blocks of our networks. We also establish a clear process to prevent the continued importation and marketing of equipment that has already been authorized but is later identified as a security threat. These steps are essential to maintaining the trustworthiness of our supply chain and the reliability of our networks.

Our rules must evolve as technology evolves. As communications equipment becomes increasingly modular and globally sourced, national security risks can arise at any point in the supply chain. By clarifying key definitions, such as "produced by," and prohibiting modifications that could reintroduce covered equipment into the marketplace, we are staying ahead of those risks and reinforcing the integrity of our authorization framework.

I also welcome the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, which seeks input on additional safeguards, including the treatment of component parts, a clear definition of "critical infrastructure," and stronger enforcement tools. These are forward-looking measures that will help ensure our rules remain both rigorous and adaptable.

Protecting our communications networks is a collective responsibility, one that spans agencies, industries, and borders. I am grateful to the staff of the Office of Engineering and Technology for their technical rigor and to our interagency partners for their collaboration and vigilance. With this item, the Commission once again affirms that when it comes to national security, we cannot afford complacency. The integrity of our networks, and the trust of the American people, depend on it.