

Media Contact:

Neil Grace, 202-418-0506 neil.grace@fcc.gov

For Immediate Release

FCC SIGNS AGREEMENT TO STREAMLINE DEPLOYMENT FOR NEXT GENERATION 5G WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE

Action will reduce time and cost barriers to 5G small cell and DAS buildout

WASHINGTON, August 8, 2016 – Today, the Federal Communications Commission took another significant step to facilitate the deployment of infrastructure critical to ensuring American leadership on next-generation wireless service, or 5G.

Building on previous infrastructure reforms, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau signed an <u>agreement</u> to eliminate historic preservation review for small facility deployments across the U.S. that do not adversely impact historic sites and locations. The agreement was signed with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO).

FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler said, "The interconnected world of the future will be the result of decisions we make today. That is why 5G is a national priority, and why today's agreement to streamline small cell deployment will play a critical role in the successful deployment of next generation wireless service."

5G buildout will require increasing spectrum availability, ensuring backhaul connectivity, and facilitating infrastructure deployment. Today's action addresses infrastructure deployment, enabling more efficient installation of distributed antennae systems, also known as DAS, and small cells. DAS, small cells, and other small-scale technologies are critical components of the physical networks that will support the exponential growth of data intensive 5G uses in the next few years.

Jon Wilkins, Chief of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, said "The agreement reflects the Commission's vigilant commitment to enabling swift but responsible deployment of wireless infrastructure. The Bureau is open for business on infrastructure siting, and we welcome input on how to further improve the siting process."

The new exclusions lay the groundwork for 5G service by reducing the cost, time, and burden associated with deployment, and by providing opportunities to make existing networks denser at low cost and with very little impact.

Today's agreement, which amends an earlier agreement among the same parties, expands exclusions from the federal review process for DAS and small cell deployments, fulfilling a directive in the October 2014 Infrastructure Report & Order to further streamline review of these

installations.

###

Office of Media Relations: (202) 418-0500 TTY: (888) 835-5322 Twitter: @FCC www.fcc.gov/office-media-relations

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).