STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN

Re: Amendment of Parts 1, 2, 22, 24, 27, 90 and 95 of the Commission's Rules to Improve Wireless Coverage Through the Use of Signal Boosters, WT Docket No. 10-4

Wireless networks, no matter how well engineered, can have the occasional dead zone, particularly indoors. Whether it is calling your mother while pressed up against the kitchen window, because that is the only place in your apartment you have cell coverage, or wrongfully concluding that you are getting the silent treatment from your significant other, as you step into the elevator: bad connectivity can mean bad news, when you want to keep in touch. Signal boosters, those devices that extend the range of wireless networks into buildings and elsewhere by, you guessed it, boosting the original signal that may be weak, can be an effective means, of improving your wireless experience.

Today's item advances the goal of greater connectivity, by seeking comment on how we can facilitate further use of signal boosters, while guarding against harmful interference. We enable broader use of provider-specific boosters, by removing the personal use limitation, and I am grateful that my colleagues agreed to my edits, that would seek comment on how we can streamline and future-proof the use of signal boosters as much as possible. Doing so would eliminate the need to conduct a new rulemaking, every time a new band is opened up for mobile use, or the industry finds a new use for signal boosters.

I also approve this item, because it contains an appropriate signal-to-noise ratio. While some may say the comments from the bench are inappropriately high in the noise department, I am glad the work by the Bureau can suffer no such criticism. Thanks to the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau for their work on this item.