

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN

Re: *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 et al.

This Order highlights the importance of—and the Commission’s commitment to—removing barriers to competitive entry. It preempts the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands’ grant of an exclusive license to Waimana Enterprises, the parent company of Sandwich Isles. I am hopeful that our limited preemption will result in better service for consumers living on the Hawaiian Home Lands.

It also highlights the importance of section 253 of the Communications Act in enabling competition. And how useless it will likely be in a broadband-only world, if the Commission’s majority moves forward with its plan to reclassify broadband as an information service. Breaking down barriers to infrastructure deployment without Title II is about as effective demolishing a wall by staring at it. Without a Title II telecommunications service at issue, today’s Order would not have been possible.