

**STATEMENT OF  
SENATOR ERNEST F. HOLLINGS  
HEARING ON SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT AND THIRD GENERATION WIRELESS  
SERVICE**

**JULY 31, 2001**

MR. CHAIRMAN, I APPRECIATE YOUR LEADERSHIP IN CALLING TODAY'S HEARING TO EXAMINE THE STEPS THAT WE, AS POLICYMAKERS, CAN AND MUST TAKE TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIRD GENERATION (3G) WIRELESS SERVICES IN THE UNITED STATES.

ON OCTOBER 13, 2000, PRESIDENT CLINTON ISSUED AN EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM DIRECTING ALL FEDERAL AGENCIES TO IDENTIFY SPECTRUM THAT COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR 3G PRODUCTS AND SERVICES. THE PRINCIPAL RESULT OF THAT ORDER HAS BEEN TO FOCUS PRIMARY ATTENTION ON TWO BANDS OF SPECTRUM IN THE UNITED STATES IDENTIFIED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS APPROPRIATE FOR 3G MOBILE SYSTEMS: THE 1710-1885 MHZ BAND, USED BY FEDERAL AGENCIES INCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE; AND 2) THE 2500-2690 MHZ BAND, CURRENTLY ALLOCATED TO INSTRUCTIONAL TELEVISION FIXED SERVICES AND MULTICHANNEL, MULTIPOINT DELIVERY SERVICES (MMDS).

THE MERITS OF SHARING AND/OR CLEARING THESE BANDS HAVE BEEN EXTENSIVELY STUDIED BY NTIA, DOD, AND THE FCC. AS A RESULT, I AM HAPPY THAT REPRESENTATIVES FROM THESE THREE AGENCIES ARE WITH US TODAY TO SHARE THEIR FINDINGS, TO DEBATE THE RELATIVE MERITS OF THE VARIOUS

APPROACHES, AND TO BEGIN THE DIFFICULT BUT NECESSARY TASK OF CHARTING A COURSE FORWARD TOWARD A SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT POLICY THAT WILL ALLOW U.S. BUSINESSES TO COMPETE IN THE GLOBAL MARKET FOR 3G PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.

STILL, WHILE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE MOVE FORWARD, WE MUST NOT IN OUR HASTE NEGLECT THE VALID CONCERNS OF INCUMBENT LICENSE HOLDERS -- IN PARTICULAR, THE IMPACT OF BAND CLEARING OR SHARING ON OUR NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS AND ON THE COMMERCIAL EXPECTATIONS OF INCUMBENT LICENSEES. ULTIMATELY, IT IS MY HOPE THAT THE TESTIMONY OF TODAY'S WITNESSES WILL BRING US CLOSER TO A CONSENSUS THAT PROTECTS OUR DOMESTIC SECURITY INTERESTS AND ENCOURAGES INNOVATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.

THE ARRAY OF CONSUMER SERVICES TO BE OFFERED IN A 3G WORLD IS NOTHING SHORT OF DAZZLING. SMALL HANDHELD DEVICES NO BIGGER THAN A PACK OF CIGARETTES WILL CONNECT TO THE INTERNET AT HIGH SPEEDS, ALLOWING CONSUMERS TO QUICKLY DOWNLOAD SONGS, EXCHANGE PHOTOGRAPHS, OR RECEIVE STREAMING VIDEO. YET, UNLESS WE BEGIN TO ACT DECISIVELY, WITH A COMMON VOICE AND A COMMON PURPOSE, U.S. COMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES RISK FALLING FURTHER BEHIND THEIR GLOBAL COMPETITORS.

AS GUARDIANS OF THIS PUBLIC RESOURCE, IT IS THE DUTY OF THIS ADMINISTRATION, THE FCC, AND THIS CONGRESS TO DEVELOP A REASONED

APPROACH TOWARD MANAGEMENT OF THE RADIO SPECTRUM THAT WILL FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF 3G SERVICES. ACCORDINGLY, WHILE THE PROMISE OF ROBUST 3G CONSUMER SERVICES IN THE UNITED STATES MAY BE YEARS AWAY, THIS HEARING COULD NOT BE MORE TIMELY.

I LOOK FORWARD TO LISTENING TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF OUR DISTINGUISHED PANEL OF WITNESSES AND TO THEIR RESPONSES TO OUR QUESTIONS.