STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER JESSICA ROSENWORCEL

Re: Amendment of Part 90 of the Commission's Rules, Implementing a Nationwide, Broadband, Interoperable Public Safety Network in the 700 MHz Band, ServiceRules for the 698-746, 747-762 and 777-792 MHz Bands, WP Docket No. 07-100, PS Docket No. 06-229, WT Docket No. 06-150, Fourth Report and Order and Fifth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (June 13, 2012)

In today's Order and Further Notice, the Commission looks for new ways to deliver advanced communications tools and unlock potential in the 4.9 GHz band. A decade ago, when the Commission allocated this band for fixed and mobile services in support of public safety, it envisioned that the spectrum could be used for a variety of new broadband applications, including wireless local area networks in emergencies, or public safety "hot spots."

But this has not come to pass. So this proceeding is an opportunity to reboot, reinvigorate, and remake possibilities in the 4.9 GHz band. While proposing to continue to use the band primarily for support of public safety, we also seek comment on expanding eligibility to permit use by the critical infrastructure industry and by commercial users under certain conditions. These additional users could provide scope and scale that would promote the development of equipment for use in the band.

I thank the Bureau for their efforts to ensure that our spectrum resources are used fairly and efficiently and I look forward to the record that develops.