

**Statement of Representative Anna G. Eshoo (as prepared)**  
**Subcommittee on Communications and Technology**  
**House Committee on Energy and Commerce**  
*Next Steps for Spectrum Policy*  
**2322 Rayburn House Office Building**  
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Forty-five billion dollars. Take a moment to consider this unprecedented amount of money raised from the recent AWS-3 auction. These funds will be used to reduce the deficit by \$20 billion, pay for the build-out of a nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network, and will upgrade 9-1-1 calls centers across the country to support next generation technology. This is a success story we can all be proud of.

Less than two years ago, Chairman Walden and I began regular meetings with NTIA, FCC and DOD to ensure our efforts to relocate or share spectrum held by federal agencies stayed on track. Many thought DOD would not cooperate, but thanks in part to the bipartisan process we established in June 2013, 65 megahertz of spectrum will be brought to market to support American's insatiable appetite for wireless broadband.

But our work is far from complete because our goal is to free up 500 megahertz of spectrum and ensure that every American has access to 4G high-speed wireless broadband. According to Cisco's latest forecast, global mobile data traffic will increase nearly tenfold over the next four years, reaching an estimated 24.3 exabytes per month by 2019. As a finite resource, we have to think big in our approach to spectrum management.

A 21<sup>st</sup> century spectrum policy should recognize:

- The complementary benefits of both licensed and unlicensed spectrum;
- The need for competitive safeguards to prevent excessive concentration of spectrum, particularly within the prime beachfront bands below 1 gigahertz; and
- The need to utilize new sharing technologies to enhance efficiency and better manage spectrum.

The upcoming incentive auction can achieve each of these policy goals while generously compensating broadcasters who voluntarily choose to participate. Similarly, freeing up additional unlicensed spectrum in the 5 gigahertz band will unlock immense economic value, promote access to broadband, and expand the ‘digital sandbox’ used by innovators and entrepreneurs.

Today, we welcome a superb panel of FCC experts, including the Committee’s former Chief Democratic Counsel, Roger Sherman. I thank each of you for being here, and I look forward to hearing your testimony on the next steps for spectrum policy.