STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN

Re: New Part 4 of the Commission's Rules Concerning Disruptions to Communications; ET Docket No. 04-35, Report and Order

Events over the past several years dictate that this Commission must have access to the most accurate and immediate information possible when there are significant disruptions to our nation's communications systems, on any platform. I support today's item because it improves the Commission's efforts to play a role, to the degree we can, in responding to emergency situations.

I recognize the reporting requirements we adopt today are not embraced by everyone in the communications industry. But I urge everyone involved to rise to the challenge in helping us do our job. It is well worth repeating that the Federal Communications Commission was created "for the purpose of the national defense, [and] for the purpose of promoting safety of life and property through the use of wire and radio communication …"

Finally, I am pleased that we have made an effort to accommodate a number of industry suggestions with the reporting process when such changes did not inappropriately undercut our underlying objective of data collection. We could not make all of the requested changes, but in many circumstances, I think we found the right balance in addressing a concern while still enabling us to get access to the depth and breadth of information we really need.

¹ Section 1 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 USC § 151.