



November 16, 2015

The Honorable Greg Walden
U.S. House of Representatives
2185 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
U.S. House of Representatives
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Walden and Ranking Member Eshoo:

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA), the leading trade association for global manufacturers, vendors, and suppliers of information and communications technology (ICT), thanks you for holding an FCC oversight hearing this week. We urge you to focus on the following issues:

Promoting investment via light-touch regulatory approaches. The Commission needs to ensure that its policies promote continued broadband investment by adopting light-touch regulatory approaches. Maintaining technology and service neutrality are critical, and when regulation is truly necessary, it should be structured to promote competition among existing and emerging platforms and providers. In such cases, achieving uniformity through exclusive federal jurisdiction by the Commission, rather than state-by-state regulation, will help create the most certainty and promote investment.

The ICT marketplace. The hearing comes at an important time for the U.S. ICT industry. While global IP traffic will continue increasing at an annual rate of 23 percent over the next five years,¹ the growth rate of U.S. telecommunications spending – which totaled \$1.36 trillion in 2014 – may begin slowing, according to TIA projections.² But the emergence of Internet-of-Things applications holds the potential to drive a significant spike in data demand during the coming years, and the nation must be prepared to meet this challenge.

Spectrum policy. TIA applauds the work the Commission has done, and continues to do, to make more spectrum available for commercial mobile broadband. For example, we support the Commission's efforts to open more spectrum in the 5 GHz band for unlicensed devices, to conduct the first-of-its-kind voluntary incentive auction of 600 MHz spectrum early next year, and to begin exploring the potential of mobile broadband in millimeter-wave spectrum.

For more information, please contact James Reid at jreid@tiaonline.org or at (703)-907-7707. Thank you again, and we look forward to continuing our work with you on these important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Belcher', is written over a white background.

Scott Belcher
Chief Executive Officer

¹ Cisco, *Visual Networking Index: Forecast and Methodology, 2014-19* (May 27, 2015), http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/collateral/service-provider/ip-ngn-ip-next-generation-network/white_paper_c11-481360.html

² Telecommunications Industry Association, 2015-2018 Market Review and Forecast, at 1-4.