



For Immediate Release

March 5, 2020

Contact: Susan Christensen, 541-276-6745

FCC Rule on TV White Spaces Makes Room for Hybrid Rural Broadband

PENDLETON, OR — The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted on Friday, February 28 to adopt a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on “TV White Spaces,” which will allow greater use of unutilized television channel frequencies for broadband purposes.

The rules, as proposed by FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, clear away regulatory barriers to the wireless technology known as TV White Spaces that can be utilized in hybrid broadband networks. This is particularly well-suited for areas with low population density and challenging topography, including forests. The change will increase the pace, scale and cost-effectiveness of hybrid network broadband deployment in rural areas.

“This is an important step in realizing the full potential of advances in broadband technology in our rural communities,” said Susan Christensen, Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation Executive Director. “This will have a real impact on access for farmers and ranchers implementing precision agriculture, seniors accessing telehealth services, and students seeking an online education.”

For more on TV White Spaces and how the new rules will impact technological upgrades, visit <https://www.fcc.gov/general/white-space>.

###

Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation is a regional economic development non-profit 501(c)3 organization charged with supporting job creation and economic growth within our district; by assisting to create, retain, and expand businesses. GEODC teams with local government to develop human and physical infrastructure to support these businesses and the communities they serve.