



For Immediate Release

INCOMPAS: FCC Sets Course for the Future of Competition

Ending Lock-Up Provisions in Tariff Action is a Win for Customers

WASHINGTON DC (April 8th, 2016) – Today, the FCC Chairman [introduced](#) a bold new framework for business data services that enable the future of competition and broadband access on a technology neutral basis, as well as an Order on the FCC’s Lock Up investigation for consideration at the FCC’s April 28th open meeting.

In response to the announcement, Chip Pickering, CEO of INCOMPAS, released the following statement:

“We have a business data revolution, and competition is the key. That is the message from Chairman Wheeler today who continues to remain steadfast in his support for competition policy.

“By ending anti-competitive lock-up provisions, the FCC is speeding the deployment of new, advanced networks and is providing relief to mobile and business customers hungry for more competition.

“Chairman Tom Wheeler and the FCC are setting a course for the future of broadband competition for wired and wireless networks. For over a decade, inaction and uncertainty have held back competition, investment and innovation. In fact, earlier this week, the Consumer Federation of America, released a paper that shows that the total economic harm of overcharges for broadband access over the last five years was \$150 billion. But the FCC’s proposal has the

potential to foster a competitive marketplace with more choices and lower prices for *all* consumers.

“Yesterday, INCOMPAS joined with Verizon on a [blog post and letter](#) to the FCC indicating our willingness to work together on a technology neutral approach that encourages network deployment and sets a framework for competition and access. This compromise is critical for wired, wireless, as well as 5G networks and beyond. We look forward to working with the Commission to ensure the future is better for customers and communities who depend on advanced networks—both wired and wireless.”

About INCOMPAS:

INCOMPAS (formerly known as Comptel) is the leading trade association for the competitive networks. INCOMPAS represents communications and technology companies large and small, advocating for laws and policies that promote competition, innovation and economic development. Learn more at www.incompas.org.

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