

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN
APPROVING IN PART, CONCURRING IN PART**

Re: *Universal Service High-Cost Filing Deadlines*, WC Docket No. 08-71

While I agree that Madison Telephone Company has failed to establish that retroactive relief is warranted, particularly with the lack of discovery of the error for nine years, I am concerned about our denial of prospective relief. There is no dispute that Madison Telephone qualified to receive a federal universal service mechanism known as safety valve support but, due to a filing error, they will be unable to receive such support on a prospective basis even after curing the error. I find this result unnecessarily harsh and am struggling to see how it furthers our universal service goals. In this particular case, however, the denial does not seem material because Madison Telephone has yet to establish specific harms. As a result, I approve in part and concur in part.