



# NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Cir 1974).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**JOINT STATEMENT OF  
CHAIRMAN KEVIN J. MARTIN AND COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS  
FOLLOWING THEIR VISIT TO THE GULF STATE REGION  
AFFECTED BY HURRICANE KATRINA**

Washington, D.C.—Yesterday, Chairman Kevin J. Martin and Commissioner Michael J. Copps visited communities in the Gulf State region affected by Hurricane Katrina. They witnessed first hand the impact of the storm on the residents and the region's telecommunications infrastructure.

Chairman Martin and Commissioner Copps stated: "We are encouraged that in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina carriers are working day and night to speed the restoration of service in Gulf State communities. We salute the Herculean efforts of their employees—many of whom have experienced terrible personal loss and property damage in this tragic storm. We are committed to doing everything within our power to aid these extraordinary recovery efforts. In the days ahead, the challenge will be facilitating service restoration. But in the long term, we will need to learn from this event and work together to improve the reliability, survivability, and security of our nation's telecommunications networks."

On Thursday, September 15, 2005, the Commission will hold an Open Meeting that will focus on the effects of Hurricane Katrina on communications services in the Gulf Coast states.

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