

**STATEMENT OF FCC COMMISSIONER JAMES H. QUELLO  
PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES (PCS)**

**EN BANC HEARING**

**December 5, 1991**

**I welcome all those who will be participating in today's en banc hearing addressing some of the key issues surrounding personal communication services. I understand that comments by parties not participating in today's proceeding will be included in the record.**

**The 1990s is the decade of mobile communications. Ushering in this interest in mobile communications was the tremendous growth and investment in a variety of mobile communication services in the 1980s, and that interest and investment continues today. We see the remarkable growth of the cellular industry, paging and specialized mobile radio services, and now personal communication services and proposals for satellite delivered mobile services. The goal of these advances in technologies is person-to-person communication, anytime and anywhere. These advances are likely to have significant positive implications for the economy, as well as meeting consumers' interest in mobile communications.**

**From the number and variety of personal communication experiments currently under way or in the planning stages, it is safe to say that personal communication services means many things to many people. Perhaps it is best to say at this time that PCS really is a family of services. I might add, that it is a family in search of a spectrum home.**

**I encourage participants to focus on a couple of tough issues. The first issue is spectrum. How much spectrum is needed? Is the 1.8 to 2.2 GHz bands an appropriate home? What happens to existing users of this spectrum? If relocation of existing users is necessary, then who pays? Is sharing possible? How do we accommodate the need for spectrum in urban areas? The list goes on and I am sure that many more spectrum issues will be addressed later today.**

**Another issue is regulatory treatment of personal communication services. Today, we have private carriers proposing services that look like common carrier services, and common carriers seeking to provide private carrier-like services.**

**How should the FCC treat, in a regulatory context, personal communication services? I note that some of the panelists have made specific recommendations and I look forward to their presentations. Generally, and for the record, I would favor a light-handed approach to regulating personal communication services. Perhaps for some members of the family of PCS services, we should consider a low-power mobile communication service governed primarily by technical regulations to protect against harmful interference as some of the panelists have suggested.**

**With these issues in mind, I look forward to what the panelists will say. I am interested in their definition of personal communication services, the technologies that will comprise these services and their answers to the spectrum and regulatory questions I raised.**