Carr Announces Sweeping New Investigation into CCP-Aligned Entities

Targets U.S. Operations of Covered List Entities that Pose Unacceptable Security Risks

WASHINGTON, March 21, 2025—Last week, FCC Chairman Brendan Carr announced that he had established a new Council on National Security within the FCC. Today, Chairman Carr is disclosing the first major initiative that this Council has been leading. Specifically, the FCC has launched a sweeping investigation into the ongoing U.S. operations of CCP-aligned businesses whose equipment or services the FCC previously placed on its <u>Covered List</u> based on determinations that those equipment or services pose unacceptable risks to America's national security. Despite being placed on the FCC's Covered List, some or all of those entities may still be operating in the U.S.—either because they do not believe the FCC's Covered List prohibits particular types of operations or otherwise.

To assess their current levels of operation, the FCC sent Letters of Inquiry and at least one subpoena to the entities named on the Covered List. The FCC is now gathering responsive information and will determine any actions that may be necessary to further safeguard America's networks and promote our national security.

"The FCC has taken concrete actions to address the threats posed by Huawei, ZTE, China Telecom, and many other entities that pose an unacceptable risk to America's national security, including by doing Communist China's bidding," Chairman Carr stated. "To safeguard our networks, the FCC has placed those CCP-aligned entities on our Covered List, and we have revoked many of the FCC authorizations that they had been operating under.

"We have reason to believe that, despite those actions, some or all of these Covered List entities are trying to make an end run around those FCC prohibitions by continuing to do business in America on a private or 'unregulated' basis. We are not going to just look the other way. The FCC, working through our new Council on National Security and in coordination with partners across the Federal government, will identify the scope of their ongoing activities and move quickly to close any loopholes that have permitted untrustworthy, foreign adversary state-backed actors to skirt our rules."

The FCC's investigation is gathering a wide range of information regarding these Covered List entities, including detailed information about their ongoing U.S. businesses, as well as information about other companies that may be aiding their operations here. The FCC will take appropriate action in response.

The Covered List entities targeted in this FCC investigation are: Huawei Technologies Company, ZTE Corporation, Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, Dahua Technology Company, China Mobile International USA Inc., China Telecom (Americas) Corp., Pacifica Networks Corp./ComNet (USA) LLC, and China Unicom (Americas) Operations Ltd.