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**WTA Congratulates Ajit Pai
on Becoming FCC Chairman**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (January 23, 2017) – WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband congratulates FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai on being designated Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission by President Donald Trump.

“WTA has enjoyed working with Commissioner Pai on a number of telecommunications issues over the years,” said Derrick Owens, WTA’s Vice President of Government Affairs. “In particular, Commissioner Pai has been an effective advocate for ensuring rural Americans have access to high-speed broadband and other telecommunications services at comparable rates and of the same quality as urban Americans. We wish him the best in his chairmanship and we look forward to continuing to work with him and his staff as we move into 2017.”

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WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband is a national trade association representing more than 350 rural telecommunications providers offering voice, broadband and video-related services in rural America. WTA members are generally small local exchange carriers that serve some of the most remote rural, sparsely populated and hard-to-serve communities in the country and are providers of last resort to those communities. To learn more about WTA, visit www.w-t-a.org.