

Federal Communications Commission

FCC

RESPONSE to GAO's Report on the

December 11, 2007

**DIGITAL TELEVISION
TRANSITION**



Introduction

In response to a Congressional request to provide information on the progress of the Digital Television (DTV) transition, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) conducted an investigation into progress made (1) by federal entities and others in facilitating the transition, (2) in educating consumers on the transition, and (3) in implementing the converter box subsidy program. GAO submitted to the FCC a draft report on this investigation, finding, among other things, that no comprehensive plan exists for the DTV transition and that the FCC, in conjunction with public and private stakeholders, should develop and communicate such a plan.

As we explained to the GAO, the FCC has been planning for the DTV transition for more than 20 years. Indeed, as we further explained, many of the DTV deadlines and milestones that Congress established were built around the FCC's own timeline for implementing multiple aspects of the transition. The following pages detail the FCC's considerable and comprehensive plans, goals and achievements on technical, policy, consumer outreach and other critical elements of the DTV transition. Throughout the attached pages we have highlighted text that we submitted to GAO that responds to corrects or clarifies statements GAO included in its original draft report.