

**STATEMENT OF  
COMMISSIONER DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE**

*Re: Third Periodic Review of the Commission's Rules and Policies Affecting the Conversion to Digital Television.*

This Order reflects the joint commitment of broadcasters, industry, and the FCC to ensuring a seamless transition for all Americans on February 17, 2009. The multifaceted details of the DTV transition are highly-technical and require expert attention. We must provide broadcasters support and structure as we close in on the final months before the transition.

This Order is the result of input from broadcasters, and will allow them flexibility in making structural changes to their facilities. A one-size-fits-all approach is not prudent for an industry that serves thousands of diverse communities. From visiting the top of the Empire State Building with engineers, to meeting with local Tennessee broadcasters, one thing is clear-- this will take individualized planning for the unique issues all across the country. I am pleased that this Order represents an understanding of the geographic, economic, and technical realities faced by American broadcasters as we approach the transition deadline.

The DTV transition is the most significant television revolution since the advent of color tv, and will likely result in incredible innovations for consumers as we realize the benefits of valuable spectrum now available for new technologies. I hope that we will continue to work together to effect a smooth and seamless transition.