

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE**

Re: *Digital Television Distributed System Technologies; MB Docket No. 05-312*

This Order brings us one step closer to the nationwide DTV Transition on February 17, 2009. As I have traveled across America for DTV Town Hall events, consumers, as well as broadcasters, continue to voice concerns about the loss of television signals they may experience as a result of the digital transition. In Wilmington, NC, we saw this first-hand. I am likewise concerned about consumers in certain areas of my home state of Tennessee. The Order adopted today authorizes the use of a technology that provides optimum signal coverage. Digital Transmission System technologies (DTS) allow broadcast stations to use a series of synchronized transmitters located throughout the service area, rather than just a single transmitter at the broadcast facility. To prevent interference, when considering applications from stations seeking to use DTS, the Commission will apply the same interference standard used for single transmitter stations. As we move toward February 17, we will no doubt encounter new and challenging technical and policy questions. I hope that, as in this case, the Commission can efficiently and effectively develop solutions to such questions, so that we can achieve our goal of a seamless Transition.