

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE**

Re: Third Periodic Review of the Commission's Rules and Policies Affecting the Conversion to Digital Television (MB Docket No. 07-91)

With this *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, we begin our third periodic review of the digital television (“DTV”) transition. We all have a role to play in order to make the transition a smooth one and realize the benefits that it promises, freeing up spectrum for incredible new applications and services, including the deployment of broadband across rural areas of this country. I applaud the Digital TV Transition Coalition comprised of business, trade, industry and grassroots organizations for their commitment to help educate and inform consumers regarding this exciting move to a dazzling truly digital world. Our role, in addition to our own education and outreach, is to provide broadcasters the regulatory flexibility they need to focus their attention on the planning, coordination, and construction of their final, post-transition DTV facilities. Unlike our previous periodic reviews, we conduct this one knowing that Congress has set February 17, 2009 as the date certain for the end of the transition, underscoring our need to work cooperatively with broadcasters and the public alike so that we will continue to get news, information and entertainment without interruption in 664 days.