

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE**

Re: 2006 Quadrennial Regulatory Review and 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review – Review of the Commission’s Broadcast Ownership Rules and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, et al., MB Docket Nos. 06-121 and 02-277, MM Docket Nos. 01-235, 01-317 and 00-244.

With today’s *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Further Notice)*, we invite the public to comment on how to address the issues raised by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in the *Prometheus* decision and concurrently initiate the next quadrennial review of the media ownership rules as required by Section 202(h) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The future is under construction right now, and we need to be addressing issues like this one in order to create an environment that allows markets to work while still protecting the interests of consumers. My recent trip to China drove home how interconnected today’s media world really is. As China prepares for the 2008 Olympic Games, I now realize how Americans will have the instantaneous experience of these games from a world away not just from the American media but from the global media. As we move forward, we must realize that the world is indeed interconnected and that American companies must be able to compete in order to continue to be global leaders in the media marketplace.

Moreover, I believe that it is critical that we, as policymakers, do not lose touch with how communications technology, and the decisions we make in this arena, may serve to improve, enhance, educate, and maybe even inspire the lives of all Americans. Media ownership will affect issues as diverse as the quality and quantity of children’s television, the diversity of opinions in our nation’s political discourse, or how we get important information in the event of an emergency. I look forward to the public’s input on the issues presented by this *Further Notice*.

In particular, I hope that we can help consumers understand the importance of the issues we are discussing and give them an opportunity to make their voices heard. I am committed to working with my FCC colleagues to ensure that our actions further competition, localism, and diversity in the global media marketplace.