

NATIONAL RADIO SYSTEMS COMMITTEE

March 7, 2012

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In the First Report and Order in MM Docket No. 99-325, the Commission sought the assistance of the National Radio Systems Committee (NRSC)¹ in the development of an In-Band/On-Channel (IBOC) digital radio standard.²

On May 18, 2005, the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA) and the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), as the co-sponsors of the NRSC, submitted the NRSC In-Band/On-Channel (IBOC) Digital Radio Broadcasting Standard, NRSC-5, to the Commission for consideration.

NRSC-5 was approved by the NRSC's Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) Subcommittee on April 16, 2005. It is based on iBiquity Digital Corporation's IBOC digital radio technology. Subsequently, the standard was revised, as NRSC-5-A by the NRSC's Digital Radio Broadcasting (DRB) Subcommittee, adding sections concerning Advanced Application Services and a new reference document.

A further revision of the IBOC standard, NRSC-5-B, was adopted by the NRSC DRB Subcommittee on April 12, 2008. NRSC-5-B incorporated the revisions from NRSC-5-A and, in addition, updated the reference documents and made minor changes to the FM RF mask and to the description of hybrid IBOC operation. NRSC-5-B was submitted to the Commission for consideration on June 2, 2008.

The latest revision of the IBOC standard, NRSC-5-C, was adopted by the NRSC DRB Subcommittee on September 15, 2011. NRSC-5-C (which incorporates all previous revisions) includes numerous improvements and refinements to the iBiquity IBOC digital radio system.

¹ NRSC serves as an industry-wide standards-setting body for technical aspects of terrestrial over-the-air radio broadcasting systems in the United States.

² First Report and Order, MM Docket No. 99-325, released October 11, 2002, at ¶ 44.

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NRSC-5-C is hereby submitted to the Commission, for its further consideration and approval as the basis for the FCC technical rules on IBOC digital radio.

Respectfully submitted,

CONSUMER ELECTRONICS
ASSOCIATION

/s/ Julie M. Kearney

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
BROADCASTERS



Valerie Schulte
Deputy General Counsel

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Attachment