channel 47c and adding DTV channel 38 at Belton.

Federal Communications Commission.

Barbara A. Kreisman,

Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 02–32283 Filed 12–20–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[DA 02–3431, MB Docket No. 02–280, RM–10558]

Television Broadcast Service; Blanco, TX

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission, at the request of Univision Television Group, substitutes channel 17 for channel 52+ at Blanco, Texas. *See* 67 FR 60205, September 25, 2002. TV channel 17 can be allotted to Blanco, Texas, with a zero offset. Since the community of Blanco is located within 275 kilometers of the U.S.-Mexican border, concurrence from the Mexican government has been obtained this allotment. The coordinates for channel 17 at Blanco are North Latitude 29–42–58 and West Longitude 98–30–39. Due to a short spacing, to land mobile channel 17 at Houston, Texas, the use of channel 17 Blanco, Texas, includes a condition. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for condition details. With this action, this proceeding is terminated.

DATES: Effective February 3, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Blumenthal, Media Bureau, (202) 418–1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The use of channel 17 at Blanco, Texas, includes the following condition: Univision must agree to (1) accept interference from current and future 488–494 MHz land mobile facilities operating from base stations located within 50 miles of the Houston reference point and mobile units operating within 30 miles of their associated base stations; and (2) not radiate a signal in the Houston area where land mobile operation is permitted with a field strength greater than that permitted by a full-power TV station that meets the co-channel distance separation criteria (341.1 km). This is a synopsis of the Commission's Report and Order, MB Docket No. 02–280, adopted December 12, 2002, and released December 19, 2002. The full text of this document is available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY–A257, Washington, DC, 20554. This document may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY–B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone (202) 863–2893, facsimile (202) 863–2898, or via e-mail *qualexint@aol.com.*

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Television broadcasting.

Part 73 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 73—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for Part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334 and 336.

§ 73.606 [Amended]

2. Section 73.606(b), the Table of Television Allotments under

Texas, is amended by removing TV channel 52+ and adding TV channel 17 at Blanco.

Federal Communications Commission.

Barbara A. Kreisman,

Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 02–32285 Filed 12–20–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[DA 02–3381, MB Docket No. 02–95, RM–10421]

Digital Television Broadcast Service; Odessa, TX

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission, at the request of Odessa Junior College District, substitutes DTV channel *38 for DTV channel *22 at Odessa, Texas. *See* 67 FR 31171, May 9, 2002. DTV channel *38 can be allotted to Odessa in compliance with the principle community coverage requirements of section 73.625(a) at reference coordinates 31–51–58 N. and 102–22–48 W. with a power of 500, HAAT of 82 meters and with a DTV service population of 259 thousand. Since the community of Odessa is located within 275 kilometers of the U.S.-Mexican border, concurrence from the Mexican government has been obtained for this allotment. With this action, this proceeding is terminated.

DATES: Effective January 27, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Blumenthal, Media Bureau, (202) 418-1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Report and Order, MB Docket No. 02–95, adopted December 6, 2002, and released December 13, 2002. The full text of this document is available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY–A257, Washington, DC. This document may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., CY–B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone 202–863–2893, facsimile 202-863–2898, or via e-mail *qualexint@aol.com.*

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Digital television broadcasting, Television.

Part 73 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 73—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for Part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334 and 336.

§ 73.622 [Amended]

2. Section 73.622(b), the Table of Digital Television Allotments under Texas, is amended by removing DTV channel *22 and adding DTV channel *38 at Odessa.

Federal Communications Commission.

Barbara A. Kreisman,

Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 02–32286 Filed 12–20–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[DA 02–3382, MB Docket No. 02–220, RM–10518]

Digital Television Broadcast Service; Christiansted, VI

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission, at the request of Virgin Blue, Inc., substitutes DTV channel 23 for DTV channel 5 at

Christiansted, Virgin Islands. *See* 67 FR 5292, August 14, 2002. DTV channel 23 can be allotted to Christiansted in compliance with the principle community coverage requirements of section 73.625(a) at reference coordinates 17–44–40 N. and 64–43–40 W. with a power of 0.85, HAAT of 130 meters and with a DTV service population of 48 thousand. With this action, this proceeding is terminated.

DATES: Effective January 27, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Blumenthal, Media Bureau, (202) 418–1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Commission's Report and Order, MB Docket No. 02–220, adopted December 6, 2002, and released December 13, 2002. The full text of this document is available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY–A257, Washington, DC. This document may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., CY–B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone (202) 863–2893, facsimile (202) 863–2898, or via e-mail *qualexint@aol.com.*

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Digital television broadcasting, Television.

Part 73 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 73—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for Part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334 and 336.

§ 73.622 [Amended]

2. Section 73.622(b), the Table of Digital Television Allotments under Virgin Islands, is amended by removing DTV channel 5 and adding DTV channel 23 at Christiansted.

Federal Communications Commission.

Barbara A. Kreisman,

Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 02–32287 Filed 12–20–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 99–325; FCC 02–286]

Digital Audio Broadcasting Systems and Their Impact on the Terrestrial Radio Broadcast Service

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In this proceeding the Commission selects in-band, on-channel (IBOC) as the sole digital technology for the terrestrial radio broadcast service. The Commission announces notification procedures that will allow AM and FM broadcasters to begin interim digital operations immediately using the IBOC systems developed by iBiquity Digital Corporation. Finally, the Commission concludes that adoption of a single IBOC transmission standard would be beneficial, and solicits industry assistance in the development of a formal standard.

DATES: Effective January 22, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter H. Doyle, Audio Services Division, Mass Media Bureau (202) 418–2700.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's *First Report and Order* in MM. Docket No. 99–325, adopted October 10, 2002, and released October 11, 2002. The complete text of this *First Report and Order* is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room CY–A257), 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC, and may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International, (202) 863–2893, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY–B402, Washington, DC 20554. The complete text is also available on the Internet at *http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC–02–286A1.pdf.*

Synopsis of First Report and Order

1. Introduction

The Commission initiated this proceeding in November 1999 to advance the development of digital audio broadcasting (DAB) in the terrestrial radio service. The *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (NPRM; 64 FR 61054, November 9, 1999) sought comment on alternatives for introducing DAB to the American public. The NPRM cited the promising preliminary results of several IBOC systems under development at the time. IBOC systems, designed to allow the simultaneous transmission of analog and digital signals within the existing AM and FM bands, had the potential to offer a seamless transition to digital technology without the need for allocation of additional spectrum. The NPRM noted, however, that IBOC technology was still unproven at the time. Therefore, the NPRM also sought comment on the use of other DAB technologies designed to operate in new spectrum.

IBOC developers made significant progress in the years following the NPRM. Two IBOC developers, Lucent Digital Radio, Inc. and USA Digital Radio, Inc., merged to form iBiquity Digital Corporation—the only remaining IBOC proponent. iBiquity has continued to develop its IBOC technology and to cooperate in an extensive independent testing program. In contrast, out-of-band DAB options do not appear viable in the near term. No new spectrum is available for an out-of-band technology, and comments in this proceeding show no broadcast industry proponent for an approach other than IBOC.

2. National Radio Systems Committee Test Program

The NPRM solicited the assistance of the private sector in evaluating candidate DAB systems. The National Radio Systems Committee (NRSC) responded with a comprehensive DAB test program. The only DAB systems submitted to the NRSC for evaluation were the iBiquity AM and FM ''hybrid'' IBOC systems. The term ''hybrid'' describes an IBOC system designed to transmit both analog and digital signals within the spectral emission mask of a single AM or FM channel. After an exhaustive testing and evaluation process, the NRSC strongly endorsed iBiquity's AM and FM IBOC systems, with AM IBOC initially limited to daytime use subject to additional testing under nighttime propagation conditions.

3. FM IBOC Test Results

The NRSC judged the audio quality of the iBiquity hybrid FM IBOC system as superior to that of analog FM. Furthermore, the NRSC reports that the hybrid digital signal is more robust than analog FM in the face of impairments such as multipath interference, co- and adjacent channel interference, and noise. Test reports cited a small increase in potential interference to the reception of first-adjacent analog signals, mainly outside normally protected FM coverage contours. The Commission agreed with the NRSC and the majority of commenters that the small increase in potential interference is an acceptable tradeoff in view of the benefits inherent in digital technology.