

From: GLSTIBOLT <GLSTIBOLT@aol.com>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 3/16/98 10:58pm
Subject: Low Power Petition (Skinner)

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RM-9242

In response to the Skinner Petition rm9242.pdf, please accept the following. If the attachment does not work, I have copied it's main text here. Thank You.

March 16, 1998

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

Subject: Low Power (Microstation) Comments

To Whom It May Concern:

I am glad to finally see the opportunity to address Low Power radio stations. I teach radio broadcasting at a Junior College. We are a proprietary post-secondary institution of higher education. Because of our status, we fall under a great misconception that our education is not as good as others or nor should we be afforded the same opportunities that public institutions have. There is a trade off, I agree. One of the negatives is the issue of trying to get a low power campus radio station on the air. Grants are hard to come by and FCC licensing doesn't seem to address proprietary college institutions. While I understand both sides of the issue, there needs to be understanding shared between all involved. On one side you have the big power players and on the other you have a variety of small broadcasters like proprietary colleges, the Rodger Skinners of America, and then the Pirate operators. I agree that there needs to be organization built in to help and address these small broadcasters. I don't agree with Pirate radio operators. The licensed stations have valid complaints in my opinion.

I would like to see the Skinner Petition adopted and implemented with regard to small broadcast colleges. We currently broadcast a mock station but have the means of low-power broadcasting, waiting for a long overdue look into low-power broadcasters. We have everything in place and programming established. We cover local professional and high school sports as well as community events. We however, do it in cooperation with the business community as well as radio stations in the market. Our Radio Broadcasting Advisory committee supports our broadcasting efforts. For example, we broadcast minor league baseball. If we had a license for 500 watts (for example), the agreement with the station that broadcasts the games includes a duplicate schedule on our station for their sponsors. This gets businesses involved with education, as our students would help sell baseball. Plus, students gain valuable experience in sports broadcasting. For more information on what our students learn and how they learn it, please visit our website at www.aicedu.com.

For the record, I would be interested in applying for a Primary Low Power FM Station. Please take into consideration proprietary post-secondary institutions when debating this issue. There really are some great colleges helping students to have a great career in radio broadcasting that serve the community extremely well. Had this been a done-deal a year ago, the Quad Cities would have been able to follow the Shriners and all of their activities leading up to their 25th annual Shrine Bowl that we broadcasted. We were there when the players went to the hospitals in Chicago covering it.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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MAR 17 1998

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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Respectfully,

Gary L. Stibolt
Radio Broadcasting Program Coordinator
GLStibolt@aicedu.com
GLS

CC: FCCMAIL.SMTPNLM("GLStibolt@aicedu.com")