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APR 14 1998

Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

FCC MAIL ROOM

In the Matter of  
Proposal for Creation of the Low Power FM  
(LPFM) Broadcast Service

FCC RM-9242

Comments of James J. Henderson

I strongly support RM-9242 as the only chance for viable LPFM service for my community. The NAB opposes all such attempts at LPFM. Why? They are the voice of the status-quo. And the status-quo, because of the 1996 Telecom Act represents *big money* for the few large corporations that are controlling an increasing anti competitive voice of American radio.

A new Interrep analysis of major-market listening reveals just how far consolidation has gone in big markets: CBS now controls 27% of listening in the Top Ten markets; Chancellor is close behind with 25%. Many smaller markets are now feeling the effects of consolidation—either from small market groups doubling and tripling up, or from some big players who are finding their way into small towns — big-market history will be repeated. This *is the trend* that more and more Americans are witnessing.

The mega-media corporations are coming in and buying up stations and have destroyed radio localism and the community it used to bring. The community I live in is close to a major market — close enough to be considered under the umbrella of large stations, but just far enough away and somewhat isolated because of terrain to be *served* by those same stations.

Our community has *no radio service*. No local news. We are on the California coast. When winter storms lash our area and close important roadways we do not get the news and information critical to our small local population! As a small community we are not that important to the whole of a major market. And this is the reason we need LPFM service in our area!

As much as the residents of our community have a need *and a right* to have their own radio news and information source, we also must have the LPFM service offered only by RM-9292. **One-watt radio will not cover the 10 miles that make up the uniqueness of our coastside population. Even FM translators have 250 watts!** RM-9292 offers the flexibility to cover the various needs of community service radio — such as ours.

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RM-9292 also offers safe guards against the threat of distant and large multiple station ownership. In other words, this Proposal is carefully crafted not to repeat the problems we are seeing with the control of radio by a few large corporations.

In short: the needs of small communities have been wrongly abandoned for the commercial and profit interests of the mega-media corporations. This is not right. We can have our own local weekly newspaper — but we cannot have our own local radio station!

Please. Do the right thing and bring RM-9292 to reality.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James J. Henderson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

James J. Henderson  
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