

COMMENTS ON RM-9242

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Office of the Secretary  
Room 222  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Representative:

I hereby request this letter be filed as an official comment on RM-9242, creation of a Low-Power FM Broadcast Service.

My understanding is there are also two other petitions before the Commission, which I would recommend disregarding; one is for special event stations, the other for an extremely low-power service. My concern is that RM-9242 be considered favorably, and passed in its current form.

I have several reasons for requesting the implementation of RM-9242. They are:

1. The creation of a low-power FM Broadcast Service (LPFM) **would give ordinary Americans the ability to own and operate their own small radio station as a lucrative business, furthering the creation of "small business" opportunities** which is the cornerstone of our great Nation. Personally, I worked as an announcer/newscaster more than 25 years ago in upstate New York. I've always dreamed of owning/operating my own commercial station, but the high cost factor has been the main problem. I've got the business, sales and on-air enthusiasm for such an operation. Like many other folks, all I need is the opportunity.

2. Full-power FM stations operate at 6,000, 50,000, and 100,000 watts. It's vital for the Commission to understand that **RM-9242 takes this into consideration by envisioning the three classes of LPFM stations.** Please know that the highest category of Mr. Skinner's LPFM stations would only operate at 3,000 watts; and frankly I would envision most operating at 1,000 watts, **giving an approximate range of 10-15 miles**, depending upon many factors. Based on a strict non-interference policy set forth by the Commission, it's entirely conceivable for me here in New Jersey, to operate this class of station, attracting advertising from small business owners in the suburban area of Monmouth and Ocean counties and providing a localized service only a small station can. Clearly many areas won't hold a full 3,000 watts for LPFM, but may hold 500 or 1200 watts based on your recommendations and engineering data. It's also vital for the Commission to know that **limiting LPFM to power under 50 watts overall, would render the service almost useless.**

Please remember that even FM translators under current rules are allowed 250 watts! **Even low-power TV stations are allowed power levels that provide coverage to a sufficient area to be effective.**

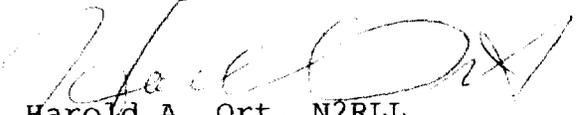
3. **Let's end the FM pirate problem once and for all.** If one could look forward five or 10 years from now, I believe we'd see this as the Commission's "Kodak Moment;" when the opportunity presented itself to greatly diminish, if not nearly completely eliminate, the FM pirate problem that plagues many areas of our country. This is that moment. Creation of the three RM-9242 LPFM categories would give radio wannabees what they've been after all along; official recognition and space on the dial to legally, legitimately broadcast.

Having said this, I'm concerned that the National Association of Broadcasters and corporate interests will influence the Commission's decision in the matter of RM-9242. Larger broadcasters could voice concern about competition from these smaller stations and a usurping of advertising dollars. *Nothing could be further from the truth.* The same thought process could be said for the publishing of a small or medium-sized newspaper. Were I to start a Suburbia Times" would the New York Times or Newark Star Ledger be concerned about my newspaper competing with their large coverage or advertising revenue? **Hardly. And please know that it's my belief that BOTH classes of radio stations could flourish in today's economy.**

The way I see it, larger broadcasters have become all-too-powerful in most areas of the country; tuning across the Nation's airwaves in most cities nets the same-old, same-old identical large-coverage stations. **What's missing from the radio landscape is the good old-fashioned local news, local happenings, interviews and advertising. Local people and community radio stations are good for America! RM-9242 will go a long way to change radio in this country for the better.** I respectfully urge approval of RM-9242 in its present form at a respectable power level, preferably "up TO 3,000 watts" as 9242 requests.

Thank you for your consideration. I can be reached anytime at 732-741-4495.

Sincerely,



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