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

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

FCC RM-9242

Comments of Rex Kamstra

I am in favor of and fully support FCC RM-9242, Proposal for Creation of the Low Power FM (LPFM) Broadcast Service.

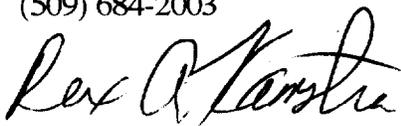
With the propagation of microbroadcast (so-called "pirate" radio) stations, it is obvious there are numerous persons in the United States who, under the current FCC licensing structure, cannot possibly obtain a broadcast license; thus, they take to the airwaves with low-power stations. These types of stations are affordable and accessible to most people, unlike the large commercial stations.

The proposal to create three distinct low-power classes of licenses is not that far-fetched an idea. I whole-heartedly believe the power levels of up to 6,000 watts are completely reasonable for this new broadcast service. The FCC acknowledges that it does not currently license any stations for less than 100 watts, except in Alaska. This seems a bit unfair to the other states, but this is a prime example of the holes in the current FM broadcast licensing structure.

There are numerous small communities who could benefit from the creation of this service. These types of towns rarely if ever would need a station running more than 6,000 watts, and most could benefit from a station running a mere 50 watts or less. This power level is quite adequate for smaller towns which desperately could use a "community" radio station to voice local opinions and offer programming not heard on the larger stations in surrounding communities, who don't cater to the needs of areas outside of their primary service contour.

It's time to give some control of the FM broadcast airwaves back to the people! Large corporations owning several radio stations don't serve the needs of their community. This proposal gives back everyone's first amendment rights.

Rex Kamstra
510 Old Arden Hwy.
Colville WA 99114
(509) 684-2003



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