RECEIVED

JUN 1 1998

FCC MAIL ROOM

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Hebard Olsen
720 Woodcrest Ln
Monterey Ca. 93940
hebard@mbay.net
May 23, 1998

Reference: FCC File No's. RM-9208 and RM-9242
RE: FCC File Nos. RM-9208/RM-9242/RM-9246

In the Matter of Amendment of the AM and FM service rules to designate one AM and one FM channel for a microradio broadcasting service for the purpose of providing very localized broadcast service to the public
RM-9208
Amendment of the FM service rules to create three new classes of lower power stations
RM-9242

Dear Commissioners and the Mass Media Bureau Staff:

In my location almost all of the FM content is CD's and commercial tapes which were made in and represent the culture of some place other than Monterey Ca. The viewpoints of a substantial segment of the people in this area are not accessible over the airwaves. The culture of a substantial segment of non white non politically correct persons is not available in the Monterey Bay- Salinis area. In addition the concentration of the media in the hands of fewer and fewer people allows the control of speech to be controlled by very few people who only allow expression of the viewpoints approved by people with enormous wealth. Canada has an equivalent of LPFM and Italy has chosen to ignore illegal stations. We need LPFM in U.S.A. Large corporations should be kept out of support for or ownership of LPFM. I wish the commission to accept the RM 9208 and RM9242 petitions with inclusion of the point system described below.

Point System instead of auction:

Instead of auctioning the LPFM stations off I would like to see a point system set up to establish non permanent LPFM licenses. Fees should be as low as possible. The owner of LPFM must live in the area covered. (1-10) points can be gained from having the persons who speak and keep the station going also from the radiated area .
(1-10)points for getting more % financing from the radiated area. (1-5)points for being non profit (irs 501) . (1-3)points for having greater variety in the nature of the programming and the type of listener. (1-7)Points granted for time sharing a specific frequency. (1-5)points should be granted to lower height antenna and use of lower power to increase the number of stations. The point system would provide higher power when there are few applicants and lower power when more applicants are available. (1-5)points for accepting a closer channel spacing or interference. The station or applicant with the greatest number

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List A B C D E
MMB

of points gets the license and gets to be relicenced every renewal time. The license should not be transferable. All stations in all categories need a license if only so interference can be tracked. Please remove some of the translators to create more stations. Such a point system would result in an evolving service unlike commercial high powered radio. We do not need more of the same will less power.

Rebuttal to objections made by establishment

The FM Oasis and the garbage translators!

It appears the primary concern of those opposed to the Low Powered FM is competition. From a listener point of view competition definitely would produce a few oasises in the vast desert of FM radio. The translators are usually like kangaroo rats which only help distribute the desert garbage. There is only one translator in the State of California that is justified! The rest of them just keep out more local channels. I find out only a minisule quantity of local happenings beyond the murders. Local media ,when it presents anything ,only presents the facts not a discussion of the issues which precipitated those facts. Usually those stories are modified to please the persons who pay for the station or their associates. In reality these stations are loosing listeners to what is available on internet already, but Internet isn't designed to satisfy very local needs.

FM for which listener?

The commercial stations are not concerned about faciliting our democracy they concerned with making a profit to support their expensive equipment, licenses, and staff. They have to minimize costs (use canned material or material sent from New York, Los Angeles etc.) They broadcast to the largest single interest segment of society(Auditron style) that will support their sponsors. They are not interested in persons over 60 small minorities, unique interests because they will not likely support their sponsors. The proposed LPFM should make it so inexpensive to be a broadcaster that locals, minorities, the powerless and financially poor can express a different point of view .LPFM can support non established musicians or entainers who haven't been canned on a CD yet. Views presented on LPFM might not be of interest to the area covered by a high powered station.

The PSA: a discussion/culture or a soundbyte.

High Powered FM stations tell you they serve the community with public service announcements: These are sound bytes which are incapable of exposing many sides of an issue or the intricacies of Arab, Japanese , Chinese, Filipino and etc. culture. Some stations support community activities not broadcast on their station, but that activity is not about broadcasting.

Making money interferes with providing emergency service.

High Powered FM Stations tell you they provide emergency service: They are not there when needed. The emergency broadcast system functions only in the state of war! Fortunately

there have been no wars so the EBS is useless. I have yet to hear any information which was of use to me. All but two non commercial stations were off the air during the Loma Preta earth quake. I have power from a generator during earthquakes--what is their problem?

Broadcasting with less power would be better than being silent. A low power station could be up on a $360 generator. In the big Pebble beach fire it was impossible to get any information until the fire was mostly out .

The miniscule pirate interference put in perspective!

From my experience Cable companies cause much more interference than pirate radio stations. I used the assistance of the FCC to reduce the interference from a cable company which not only could not deliver an adequate reliable signal but interfered with my successful efforts in obtaining fringe reception which was 10 db clearer than their signal. Their engineers told me my signal was better than theirs after they stopped interfering. Because cable companies do not check either their lines or consumer premises for leaks , a fringe area like Seaside Monterey Marina is full of interference. Only the number of people who get free cable from the cable leaks restrain the cable company from radiating to the community because most people do not know the rolling horizontal bars on non cable reception are from cable leakage. It took me almost a year to get the cable company to fix their corroding connections. They denied everything until the FCC after seeing my slides stepped in and insisted they fix it!

Higher powered stations use the spectrum more efficiently!

No one could deny that it would be cheaper to hire one announcer for the entire United States to speak to everyone through translators in every city of the nation. Does this efficiency serve a democratic institutions well? Does this efficiency result in the discussion of the different views of the actions taken by the government? It seems this efficiency results in striking out the benefits of the first amendment. If the time spent announcing and playing he CD's and commercial tapes is deleted most of the information originates in three - four major cities. Much life does go on outside Los Angeles , New York , Washington D. C. and Chicago. Most of the news is merely a reading of government communications from those 4 cities.

Wait for IBOC so current analog stations can duplicate on an IBOC channe

There is no need for more sand in the FM desert. Even if the grains of sand are sharper that will not attract listeners to more sand. What is needed is a divergence in content caused by a divergence in ownership types. Find out what percentage of the public are listening to FM? or even AM? There is only a limited audience for background music. The new LPFM needs to be available to a different kind of broadcaster to attract adults who are being ignored by the high powered FM stations.

Since the IBOC fits into the standard channels then they should replace an existing analog channel!

Respectfully;

Hebard Olsen

Hebard Olsen

RECEIVED
JUN 1 1998
FCC MAIL ROOM