DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED
JUN 3 0 1999
FCC

COMMENTS ON RM - 9242

Copy Number Three

F.C.C. Chairman William Kennard
c/o: Office of the Secretary
1919 M Street N.W. Room 222
Washington, District of Columbia
20554

Radio Station KA8LUG
Mark Schmidt
5555 Gulf Blvd. Suite 203
St. Pete Beach, Florida
33706

Dear Mr. Kennard:

In the July issue of Popular Communications magazine on pages 8 - 12 there is information on an updated proposal for the F.C.C. to allow micro broadcast radio stations presented by J. Rodger Skinner Jr. a responsible Ham radio operator.

This is a great idea that should be considered since the original proposal would limit the distance in the most favorable conditions to half a mile. The new proposal would allow for the maximum distance in the same favorable conditions to be 15 miles.

In less favorable conditions such as there is here on St. Pete Beach with all the metal buildings around, the original proposal would render the transmitted signal totally useless. There are other situations that would require more power in order to have an effective range, such as when a station is located near large trees, there is also the disadvantage of being in a valley between two large mountains. Most people do not live in what would be described as the most favorable conditions.

It would also create new programming that the major radio stations are unwilling to try. One advantage to a broadcast station along coastal areas is to inform the residence when a disaster is about to strike and broadcast evacuation orders, also to let them know when it would be safe to return to their homes.

Mark L. Smith

No. of Copies rec'd 2
List A B C D E
MMB