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

Date: 7-22-98

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington DC 20554

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

FCC RM-9242

To: Federal Communications Commission

Reply-Comments of: *Justin Schmidt*

The current situation in FM broadcasting is disastrous to our local economy. Only national chains can afford to advertise, and local artists are heard far less than one percent of the time. The airwaves belong to the people and not the corporations. We need an alternative form of broadcasting now more than ever. Low power FM would create more competition, and bring down the cost of advertising.

Greater Media's assertion that the FCC would have trouble regulating the new stations is absurd. These stations are anxious to comply with all regulations. And the FCC has proved capable of finding the personnel to shut down hundreds of existing unlicensed LPFM stations.

Some argue that there is no room for more stations. Again, this is untrue.

Most arguments against LPFM are purely from an economic perspective. No matter what they say, the big broadcasters are afraid of competition.

The Internet should be a model for democratizing other forms of media, not an excuse to justify corporate dictatorship of the broadcast spectrum.

The simple fact that existing broadcasters have not allowed a discussion of this very subject on the public airwaves proves they do not serve the public interest.

Justin Schmidt

Signed *Justin Schmidt*

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