January 15 1999

Senator Wayne Allard
716 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator,

I am writing to request your assistance. I am part of a group of citizens that support a micro-radio station in Salida, Colorado. This is a grass-roots, community based effort. Everyone is a volunteer. The station broadcasted mainly music, and followed all FCC rules regarding obscenity and objectionable material. In our rural area, we receive few radio stations, so we are not intruding on any commercial airspace.

Free Range Radio has operated without a license because FCC does not have a licensing procedure for micro-radio stations. I am writing to ask you to support the current rulemaking (RM-9208, 9242,9246) being considered by the FCC. These rules would make it possible for Free Range Radio to operate legally. Please support these "low-power FM" rules.

Free Range Radio was started after researching costs and the complexity of licensing a station through the FCC. The current regulations require a huge amount of money and exhaustive engineering studies, making community far beyond the means of a small and relatively poor community such as ours. With radio increasingly consolidated in the hands of a few large corporations, the need for low-power community stations grows ever stonger.

There is a great interest in this and other small communities to have a choice and greater selection in the programming we are offered. Please help us provide an alternative in our area, please tell the FCC you support low power FM.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Wiesel

Bonnie Wiesel
P.O. Box 1309
Salida, CO 81201

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