

I am happy to learn that the FCC is considering the establishment of Low Power Radio Service. Having read your initial comments, I am understanding of your concern for the regulation of the FM spectrum. I am at the same time, however, a bit confused by the fear, and I will use Mr. Furchtgoot-Roth's statement as an example of that fear, that "while new people will be able to broadcast, others may lose their ability to receive and listen to existing stations due to interference." I grew up within walking distance of a few major broadcasting towers (licensed broadcasters, both radio and t.v.). These towers constantly blocked weaker, or more distant signals, from reaching my television or my radio. Oddly enough, however, no one ever shut them down because I couldn't get the stations I wanted. I highly doubt, even if I were to send a letter a day to your board, that the towers would be turned off. If you shut down one tower because of the signals that it blocked, you would, to do the owner justice, have to shut down all towers. What I am attempting to say, is that even with the existing rules, some people have lost the ability (nay, in my opinion, some people never had the ability) to receive all of the stations in their area. To throw out what could be such an excellent opportunity for small businesses (not only the broadcasters, but their community advertisers as well) and community strengthening, solely out of the fear of doing something your regulations already permit, in my opinion, doesn't make complete sense. This is not to say that we should allow anarchy on the airwaves. I do support the idea of regulating these stations differently according to each one's max. output. I also support the idea that the holder of a license should be required to have his/her station on the air a min. number of hours. Thank you for your time.