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Regina Lisanckie
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Seattle, WA 98107
(296) 789- 5031
March 7, 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
1-10-99
FCC-99-001
Federal Communications Commission
Attn: NPRM # FCC 99-6
445 12th Street
Washington D.C. 20554
Re: NPRM # FCC 99-6, MM Docket #99-25 & 95-25

Dear Sir or Madam:

In accordance with the belief that all citizens should have equal access to media within a Democratic society, I urge you to support measures to ensure under- financed communities access to non- commercial, Low Power FM radio. The FCC has the power to provide citizens the opportunity to participate in local, neighborhood- based radio programming. These opportunities are currently the luxury of large corporations, allowing for a monopoly that paralyzes the potential exchange of ideas and culture within smaller neighborhoods and communities.

This is about something more than radio. The current restriction on micro radio is indicative of a greater problem of our culture, in which citizens are disenchanted by the 200 year old promise of freedom and prosperity, where the outlets for small change have been severed by corporations that have the money to control what we see and hear. The outcome of this has been bleak, where ordinary neighbors are alienated from each other for the mere reason that the outlets that could bring us closer together are not allowed.

Perhaps we are at an important crossroads, where new explanations on free speech, access to culture, and the exchange of ideas are re-defined. The FCC is poised to allow communities to intermingle, enlighten one another and re-build the bridges that have separated us .To support the vision of licensing non- commercial Low Power FM radio, that heeds the needs of all communities, I urge you to support legalization of this measure with the following concerns in mind:

1. There should be a completely non- commercial service, to restrict the domination of commercial media. LPFM licenses should go to non- commercial community groups who want to use radio to communicate, not to make a profit.
2. Licenses should be held locally, be non- transferable, affordable to all, and easy to apply for.
3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas, up to 250 in rural areas.
4. NO secondary status.
5. Micro broadcast pioneers that have suffered government seizure and fines should receive amnesty, have their property returned, and be prioritized for new licenses.
6. Problems, technical or otherwise, should be referred to the local voluntary micro power organization for assistance or mediation. The FCC should be the forum of last resort.
7. LPFM must be included in the future of digital radio.
8. If the FCC intends to license some commercial stations, this should be done last. There should be a 2 year " head start" for non- commercial licenses. The right of citizens to communicate is protected by the Constitution and the FCC's mandate. The right to make money through local radio is not.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Regina Lisanckie
Seattle, Washington

Regina Lisanckie

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 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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