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GO radio WGOH — WUGO

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Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the matter of	MM Docket No. 99-25
Creation of Low Power	
FM radio Services	RM-9208 RM 9242

Comments of Carter Co. Broadcasting Co. inc. WGOH-WUGO
Francis M. Nash, Gen. Mgr.

As a small-market broadcaster faced with the possibility of a dozen low-power FM stations going on the air nearby, I stand opposed to such a move by the Commission. I am amazed that such an idea has made it this far, given not only the technical disruption that is apparent, but the lack of historical lessons learned. For six years I researched radio and TV in our state that resulted in the book, *Towers over Kentucky,* a history of our state broadcasting industry. The 80-90 docket had a dramatic impact on our state, resulting in of the loss of home-owned and controlled stations, due to economic problems brought on by the addition of so many competing signals. These stations were forced to consolidate to remain alive. Now, the Commission proposes thousands more stations in the smaller markets? Those of us who have been in this business for 30-40 years are simply flabbergasted that we can't learn the lessons of history. The rationale has been given that the Commission is concerned with the effects of consolidation, yet it was the creation of more stations a decade and a half ago that helped bring about the necessity of consolidation.

Our station remained locally-owned and viable because we had no debt. We are a hard-working station and have been nominated five times for the NAB Crystal award for our community service. Local news and voices are heard daily and issues are covered. But we could not continue such efforts with even more competing signals in such a small market. Low power FM stations would serve only to diminish the ability of long-standing, proven, quality stations to serve the public and to be heard by the public on their radios, and would accomplish none of the objectives stated by the Commission.

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