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KWHI 1280
Friendly Country

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Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S. W.

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Informal comments re: Creation of a Low Power Radio Service
MM Docket No. 99-25
RM-9208 RM-9242

From: Tom S. Whitehead, Inc. licensee of KWHI-AM and KTTX-FM,
Brenham, Texas. April 2, 1999.

The licensing of thousands of new low-power FM stations will create a nightmare of interference problems for existing stations and for the FCC. This will be especially true since the low power stations will not be held to the same standards as existing stations and most of the new licensees will have had little or no experience in operating a radio station.

The ability of the FCC staff to adequately handle the mass of interference complaints on a timely basis will be severely tested. As we found out in a recent interference case the process is unbelievably slow with all of the filings, replies, appeals etc.

We complained to the FCC in June of 1995 about interference to KWHI from Radio Station KFCC which had illegally moved its transmitter from Bay City to the outskirts of Houston. After months of this interference, we sought help from a Washington attorney and from our Congressman. (See attached) Still, it was not until August of 1996 that the FCC finally ordered KFCC to move back to Bay City and ordered license revocation hearings for January of 1977.

The license of KFCC was revoked in September of 1997. Incredibly the station is still on the air as of this writing, pending an appeal in federal courts. This is nearly four years since the illegal move to Houston.

Had KWHI not vigorously pushed this case, spending time and money that could have been better used to serve our listeners, KFCC might well be still operating illegally outside of Houston. Our attorney said it was difficult to get the FCC involved in matters concerning small stations.

When the air waves are jammed with thousands of micro stations, will the FCC be able to keep order? Or, will it take years to settle a single claim of interference?

Sincerely,


Tom S. Whitehead, Jr.
President
Tom S. Whitehead, Inc.

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives • Washington, DC 20515-4308

March 6, 1996

Mr. Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Reed:

I have been again contacted by Mr. Tom S. Whitehead regarding the problems his station is still experiencing with KFCC(AM), Bay City, Texas. I previously contacted you in his behalf in September 1995.

As I understand the situation, the licensee of KFCC(AM), Chameleon Radio Corporation, was issued a cease order by the FCC on September 8. Subsequently, Chameleon requested and received a stay of this order.

I am told that this matter has now been before the Board for review and a decision is to be issued soon. I am requesting that you provide me with information as to the status of this matter, and if it a decision can be issued expeditiously.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

With best regards, I remain

Sincerely,

JACK FIELDS
Member of Congress

JF:ns

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

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