

3-10-99

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Federal Communications Commission

Attn: NPRM # FCC 99-6

445 12 Street, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20554 (202) 418-0260

Email: wkennard@fcc.gov, sness@fcc.gov, hfurchtg@fcc.gov, mpowell@fcc.gov,

gtristan@fcc.gov, fccinfo@fcc.gov

Regarding NPRM # FCC 99-6, MM Docket # 99-25 & #95-25:

I urge you to adopt rules for licensing Low Power FM radio that prioritize the needs of under-served and under-financed communities. Your office has the power, and the mandate, to ensure that ordinary people can claim a piece of the pie that big corporations dominate and control. I am confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

To support this vision, I urge you to legalize micro-radio with the following concerns in mind:

1. There should be completely non-commercial service. The current radio spectrum is dominated by 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 communities, easy to apply for, NOT businesses, and limited to one per license holder.
3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas and up to 250 watts in rural areas.
4. NO secondary status
5. Microbroadcast pioneers who 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 micropower organization for assistance or mediation (eg the Ham radio model). 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, they must be licensed last. In this instance, there should be a 2 year "headstart" 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 thru local radio is not.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of these vital issues.

Sincerely,

JACQUELIN A. MCCARTHY
 131 21ST AVE E #3
 SEATTLE, WA 98102
 jackiemcc@seattleweekly.com

RECEIVED

APR 12 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

No. of Copies rec'd 04/
List ABCDE