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APR 27 1999

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April 5, 1999

Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

MM 99-25

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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Dear Commissioner Ness:

Since the passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, most of the small, independently-owned radio stations in Denver - and across the nation - have been bought out by large national broadcasting corporations.

This has resulted in a situation where most of the radio stations in any given market, are owned by one of three national corporations. This has greatly homogenized the music programming, the type of news that is featured, and the very character of these stations.

Low-power service could make possible again locally-owned stations, which could develop community-specific broadcasting and therefore restore real choice to listeners seeking radio that serves their unique tastes and needs.

Several key items must also be observed if LPFM is to be truly viable:

1. Allow these stations to be commercially supported
2. Drop both the 2nd and 3rd adjacent channel restrictions (better technology makes this unnecessary)
3. Enact some form of ownership restrictions to keep this service for true local owners only; no national corporate owners

The main detractor of this proposal is the large powerful lobbying organization paid for by the corporations that have a very lucrative near monopoly on the airwaves. (The National Association of Broadcasters)

I, along with many other people in Denver and across the nation, are anxious to see this LPFM service become a reality. Having no large lobby group, we have no other way to influence this situation than to contact you individually and ask urgently for your support.

Thank you for any help you can offer.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Larter

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