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West End Radio

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

103.9 1490

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April 14, 1999

MM Docket No. 99-25

The Honorable William Kennard
Chairman
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

My Broadcasters Association has advised me to write you a letter expressing my concern with your idea of Microradio. I know that many concerns have already been expressed. My main is how this would effect the new Emergency Alert System. In a very small market like the Forks Washinton area, there will be many Americans lives put in jepordy if they can't recieve any kind of Emergency Alert. There are many romote cities like mine across the country which could add up to millions. Are you and the FCC ready to take full responsibily for their lives.

Thats one of many concerns I have for the American people.

On a personal note: I have been in the broadcast industry for over thirty years. The first twenty five years I spent polishing my craft and saving my money and saving my money so I could put myself in a position where I could improve my lot in life by purchasing a small market radio

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station. People of your stature and position frighten me when your given the ability by just the wave of an ink pen to distory all my hopes, dreams and future. Mr. Kennard if you allow this to happen, all I can say to you is shame, shame, shame on you for allowing rank amateurs, people who have no experience, who have never touched a microphone in their entire lives to put me, who I concider to be a professional, out of business. This is what will happen to a lot of dinky market radio station across the country where the advertising base is very limited. Then take into concideration that millions will not have a E.A.S. System to depend on. I would urge you and your fellow commissioners to give serious concideration to placing any low-power FM actions on hold until and unless these and many other issues are resolved to protect the American people and professional broadcasters like myself.

Thank you for your concideration of these views.

Sincerely, Al (Monroe) Nearhoff

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Al Nearhoff', written in black ink.

Copies sent to all of the Washington State delegation and other FCC Commissioners.