

As an FM radio listener, I am strongly opposed to the low-power FM proposal. The proposal considers only the interest of broadcasters, ignoring the rights of listeners.

I see many similarities to the e-mail "spam" problem: spammers broadcast their messages for selfish reasons, despite the fact that they generally only annoy the recipients and interfere with legitimate e-mail.

Now, FCC proposes to license thousands of "spam stations", without adequate frequency coordination, and without an adequate budget for enforcement given the number of stations. These stations will obscure the signals of legitimate broadcasters and will turn our FM bands into cacaphony.

Many of these stations will broadcast continuous-loop messages as do the present low-power AM stations. This material is more appropriate for the web or an answering machine. We will lose our access to many news and music programs, and gain in return a one-minute announcement of next week's school lunch menu, repeated constantly. Where we can presently listen to one station for an hour's drive, we'll have a series of stations that are audible for only a few minutes time.

Please reconsider this proposal and continue the present FM broadcasting without legitimizing pirate broadcasters.

Thanks

Bruce Perens