

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

ORIGINAL

JUL 14 1999

From: Fletcher Rogers <fletcher@babenet.com>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNES),K...
Date: Sat, Jul 10, 1999 6:29 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

Federal Communications Commission
 Office of Secretary

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
 Commissioner Gloria Tristani,
 Commissioner Michael Powell
 Commissioner Susan Ness
 Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth
 Federal Communications Commission
 The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554
 cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton Vice President Al Gore,
 Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.
 cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

MM Docket No. 99-25
 Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

We are writing to commend you and the Federal Communications Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the diverse, local needs of listeners. And, for poor people and others who are considered unimportant to the advertising community, radio increasingly has little to offer. Again, the great tragedy of this situation is that radio is the ideal medium to provide an accessible local service for democratic communications of interest and value to the entire population.

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The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide public support. The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated by the emergence of a national Free Radio Movement, widespread civil disobedience, constitutional challenges of the Commission's aggressively enforced 21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of unlicensed community radio stations supported by local government, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of property, arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities.

In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition (mec@tao.ca), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

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Additional Comments=

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED ORIGINAL JUL 14 1999

From: "James C. Mitchell" <mitch@ksu.edu>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNES),K...
Date: Sat, Jul 10, 1999 7:59 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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Additional Comments=

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state=KS
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To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNES),K...
Date: Sat, Jul 10, 1999 8:44 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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Additional Comments=
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From: Bruce Laplante <laplab@capital.net>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNES),K...
Date: Sat, Jul 10, 1999 8:51 PM
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Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=

name=Bruce Laplante

street=41 Nathaniel Blvd

city=Delmar

state=NY

zip=12054

=Send to FCC

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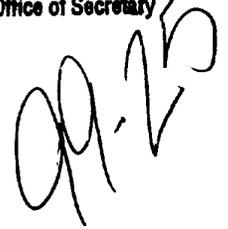
ORIGINAL RECEIVED

From: Carol Grier <excel@west.net>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD),K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K5DOM....
Date: Sat, Jul 10, 1999 9:10 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 14 1999

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
 Commissioner Gloria Tristani,
 Commissioner Michael Powell
 Commissioner Susan Ness
 Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth
 Federal Communications Commission
 The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554
 cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton Vice President Al Gore,
 Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.
 cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition



MM Docket No. 99-25
 Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

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In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities.

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Additional Comments=

name=Carol Grier
street=1010 Fairview Road
city=Ojai
state=CA
zip=93023
=Send to FCC

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ORIGINAL RECEIVED

From: John Krumm <jkrumm@people-link.com>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD),ROUTE_A.GWIA1("mec@tao.ca","...
Date: Sun, Jul 11, 1999 11:52 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 14 1999

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Office of Secretary

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 Commissioner Susan Ness
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Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author
John Krumm--Educator, Author

Additional Comments=PS. While you undoubtedly have received many copies of this letter, I hope you take its message seriously. I have read its contents and wholeheartedly support these changes to radio broadcasting law.

Sincerely,

John Krumm
Saint Paul, MN
name=John Krumm
street=310 W. Morton St.
city=Saint Paul
state=MN
zip=55107
=Send to FCC

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED ORIGINAL

JUL 14 1999

From: David Hyer <hydav@pacbell.net>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNES),K...
Date: Sun, Jul 11, 1999 11:38 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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Office of Secretary

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Commissioner Susan Ness
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Additional Comments=
name=David Hyer
street=1326 Milvia #D
city=Berkeley
state=CA
zip=94709
=Send to FCC