

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED *K-99-25*

**From:** Mary Riddick  
**To:** "hankel@sloth.ots.ac.cr"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 13, 1999 2:27 PM  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

ORIGINAL RECEIVED

JUL 22 1999

Chairman Kennard, requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket#99-25.

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

>>> Hank Loescher <hankel@sloth.ots.ac.cr> 07/12 4:54 PM >>>

=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 W Bush  
 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

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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](mailto: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.

To support this vision, we urge you to legalize microradio with the following concerns in mind:

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Steering Committee:  
Sara Zia Ebrahimi, Philadelphia  
Diane Fleming, Philadelphia  
Peter Franck, San Francisco

Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.  
Alan Korn, San Francisco  
Greg Ruggiero, New York City

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Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University  
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Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego  
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=  
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city=Miami  
state=FL  
zip=33052  
=Send to FCC

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

ORIGINAL

DK-99-25

From: Mary Riddick  
To: "vote@pacific.net"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
Date: Tue, Jul 13, 1999 2:26 PM  
Subject: Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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>>> Dan Hamburg <vote@pacific.net> 07/12 4:10 PM >>>  
=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,  
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Commissioner Susan Ness  
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth  
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author  
Dan Hamburg--Voice of the Environment  
Additional Comments=  
name=Dan Hamburg  
street=1330 Boonville Road  
city=Ukiah  
state=CA  
zip=95482  
=Send to FCC

**ORIGINAL**

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DK-99-25

**From:** Mary Riddick  
**To:** "dnhsut@easystreet.com"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 13, 1999 2:36 PM  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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>>> DS <dnhsut@easystreet.com> 07/13 12:34 AM >>>  
 =To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,  
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=

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street=8665 SW Canyon Ln. #31  
city=Portland  
state=OR  
zip=97225  
=Send to FCC

**ORIGINAL**  
EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

DK-99-25

**From:** Mary Riddick  
**To:** "brian@natescape.com"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 13, 1999 2:41 PM  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

**RECEIVED**

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Office of Secretary

>>> "Brian\_P.\_Sherry" <brian@natescape.com> 07/13 1:46 PM >>>

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,  
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Diane Fleming, Philadelphia  
Peter Franck, San Francisco

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Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=  
name=Brian Sherry  
street=6 Moulton Ave.  
city=Salem  
state=MA  
zip=01970  
=Send to FCC

ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

DK-99-25

RECEIVED

**From:** Mary Riddick  
**To:** "morr@boisestate.edu"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 13, 1999 2:41 PM  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 22 1999

Chairman Kennard, requested that I acknowledge and review your comment and that it has been forwarded to the FCC Secretary's Office for association with Docket #99-25. Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

>>> Martin Orr <morr@boisestate.edu> 07/13 10:35 AM >>>  
 =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  
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Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=  
name=Martin Orr  
street=Boise State University  
city=Boise  
state=ID  
zip=83725  
=Send to FCC

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DK-99-25  
ORIGINAL RECEIVED

From: Mary Riddick  
 To: "dakk@ix.netcom.com"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
 Date: Tue, Jul 13, 1999 2:40 PM  
 Subject: Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

JUL 22 1999

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Federal Communications Commission  
 Office of Secretary

>>> Kevin Faye <dakk@ix.netcom.com> 07/13 10:06 AM >>>

=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,  
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 cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

MM Docket No. 99-25

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Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=  
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city=Yonkers  
state=NY  
zip=10705  
=Send to FCC

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DK-99-25

**From:** Mary Riddick  
**To:** "tanabe1022@earthlink.net"@ROUTE\_A.GWIA1  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 13, 1999 2:34 PM  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED

JUL 22 1999

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Federal Communications Commission  
 Office of Secretary

>>> James Tanabe <tanabe1022@earthlink.net> 07/12 11:30 PM >>>  
 =To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,  
 Commissioner Gloria Tristani,  
 Commissioner Michael Powell  
 Commissioner Susan Ness  
 Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth  
 Federal Communications Commission  
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Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego  
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=  
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street=17229 SW Greengate Dr.  
city=Sherwood  
state=OR  
zip=97140  
=Send to FCC