

As a broadcaster for over 45 years, I find the granting of low power FM to be ill advised. During my time in the industry, I have received FM licenses in the following small markets in Illinois: WAAG-FM - Galesburg, IL (1966) WRMJ-FM - Aledo, IL (1979) WHHK-FM - Galva, IL (1995) In each case, there were no competing applicants. In fact, Galva was an 80-90 grant that had been returned to the FCC by a previous owner who cited lack of economic viability.

When starting full time in the industry in 1954, there were 3,000 radio stations. Today over 12,000 are currently on the air. During these 45 years, the spectrum has not increased. As we enter the digital age, we need to respect the integrity of the spectrum.

Perhaps, before granting the proposed huge increase in potential frequencies, the FCC should test the waters by allowing low power frequencies to be assigned to AM daytime stations that do not have nighttime authority. This would give these stations the opportunity to provide nighttime service to their community and give the FCC additional time to study the consequences of the impact low power FM would have on the spectrum.

Thank you.

Roger Coleman