



WCXU fm 97.7  
Caribou &  
Presque Isle, Maine

WCXX fm 102.3  
Madawaska, Maine &  
Edmundston, New Brunswick

W276AY fm 103.1  
Fort Kent, Maine &  
Clair, New Brunswick

24 July, 1999

Federal Communications Commission  
FCC Portals II  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

JUL 27 1999  
FCC MAIL ROOM

RE: COMMENTS ON Proposed Rule Making. Docket 99-25.

This is in opposition to the Commission's proposal for Low Power FM broadcasting, Docket 99-25.

While we understand the desire for as many outlets for the expression of opinions as there are opinions, and the want for the added distribution of informational and instructional material and cultural diversity the FM band is hardly the place for such a proliferation of soap boxes.

The internet is!

The FM band was energized in the last decade with Docket 80-90, so that now low power possibilities exist, mostly, only in low populated areas that are already "over-radioed". These are areas where the critical mass needed to maintain radio as we know it today can be too small for a commercially viable business operation. Despite the growing economy, many small market radio stations are at the margin, many others posting gross annual sales of merely one or two hundred thousand dollars - hardly enough to cover even small payrolls. This is often the result of other new and growing competitive factors. To replace or dilute commercial and educational radio with amateur radio is hardly a step forward.

Docket 80-90 has been responsible for many stations needing to become unattended during some dayparts; others downsizing or dropping costly journalistic efforts. More signals will only exacerbate this problem.

Technically, we think the Commission needs to review the history of the consequences of an overcrowded congested AM band when the cry for more audio services out drowned the reality of spectrum limitations in the 1950's and 1960's. We think the Commission needs to balance the use of the spectrum now with its IBOC digital ideas for the 21st century. It may be there is some mutual exclusivity flowing between the two plans.

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Federal Communications Commission  
COMMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO:

July 24, 1999  
Docket 99-25: LPFM

Allowing a spectrum of megaphones on a band already demonstrating great diversity is unnecessary and only damages listener clarity and threatens economic opportunity for professional broadcasters and their advertisers. In small markets the numerous possibilities for LPFM may dilute listenership below the critical mass needed to allow professional radio to continue. In the major markets, it is doubtful enough FM frequencies are available to give voice to those seeking it.

As a broadcaster of 41-years, I suggest this proposal is fatally flawed and needs to be scrapped.

Sincerely,

THE CANXUS BROADCASTING CORPORATION  
Radio Station W C X U - W C X X - W276AY



Dennis Curley  
President