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April 15, 1999

Chairman Bill Kennard
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Chairman Kennard,

The purpose of this letter is to express my concerns about a major issue facing the radio industry today, low power FM radio. I'm especially concerned in regards to the LPFM impact on those of us who are small market operators working hard each day to make sure we continue to serve our communities.

I'm a 37 year old independent radio station owner who has worked hard to achieve my goal of operating and owning my own radio stations. I never asked for more than an opportunity to attain this goal in the present system. True, consolidation has hurt ownership opportunities in larger markets. However, I believe there are still many opportunities in the smaller markets.

What's disturbing is that, from what I understand, there would actually be more frequency availability in small markets than in large markets. This, to me, just doesn't make sense and would only hurt the very people you're trying to help. The LPFM's are proposed so as to put more voices on the air and put community service back into radio. That, Chairman Kennard, is exactly what we do every day. We are here for our community and provide it and the area with information and public service on a daily basis. Plus, the additional frequencies on an already cluttered band would seem to do more damage than it is worth.

In closing, I would urge you to find solutions that are more in line with maintaining the integrity of a fabulous and exciting industry. I'm an example of someone who can attain that dream of radio station ownership if you just work hard and find the right opportunity.

I thank you for this opportunity to offer my comments.

Sincerely,



Michael S. Harbit
President
Harbit Communications, Inc.
KNEM/KNMO-FM Radio

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