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DK-99-25

From: Christopher Michael Brennan <cbrennan@station.sony.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Tue, Jul 20, 1999 4:51 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Christopher Michael Brennan (cbrennan@station.sony.com)
on Tuesday, July 20, 1999 at 15:51:41

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comments: To whom it may concern,

Keeping radio out of the hands of the people and in the hands of multimedia conglomorates is a travesty. As a former program director for a college radio station who has alternately broadcasted over cable, the internet and with an illegal micro signal (mainly a symbolic protest but one by which we have been reprimanded)I have personally seen the damage that can be done in terms of community involvement, self help programs, campus safety and the general well being of local communities. For instance, while our radio station ran public service announcements promoting forums on women and violence, KROQ, a "major" in Los Angeles, asked its listeners to "party" at the KROQ dance night. While our station sought to promote various organizations such as Project Literacy (designed to help promote reading in our youths) and Books for Prisoners, Jim Rome of Xtra 690 AM asked his listeners to call in and "talk smack" about professional sports players. In esscence, Los Angeles suffers from !
!
a glut of ego driven, shock style performances which do little, if anything, to promote community health and if anything continue the onslaught of commercialism cloaked in the idea of "new and exciting music" which is the base cause of so many of society's problems. We must eliminate commercialism entirely from the airwaves. We must promote creativity, learning, caring, and change. We live in a country with diversity just spilling out of its borders and to think that blanket radio entities with tentacles in every major marketplace in the country can even begin to document the vast and beautiful sounds and ideas it exudes is a fallacy. To think that this in any way is good for the people is a fallacy. The tide is already turning. Between the various pirates and even more so with the internet, the non millionaire is beginning to make an impact. Please help us, so that we in turn can help our communites and families and friends. Thank you for your time.

address: 508 Hill st. #2

city: Santa Monica

state: CA

zip: 90405

Submit: Send to FCC

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JUL 30 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE 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

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List ABCDE

cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition
cc: Americans for Radio Diversity

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.

Awarding licenses for new low power FM radio stations would empower local communities with a new public forum to express its many voices, cultures, ideas, and needs. Low power radio stations would create much needed public fora for a variety of groups - including community activists, youth, ethnic and linguistic minorities, the religious community, local artists and cultural associations - and provide a forum for dialogue and debate about important local and public interest issues. These kinds of stations would strengthen community identity in urban

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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) and Americans for Radio Diversity (ard@radparker.com), 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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Robert W. McChesney, Madison

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

Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University
Nancy Kranich--Librarian

Ron Daniels--Executive Director ,Center for Constitutional Rights
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Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
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Juliet Schor--Harvard University
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Laura Flanders--national producer for Pacifica Radio
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Dee Dee Halleck--Deep Dish TV
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

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ORIGINAL

DK-99-25

From: Virgil Porter <vporter@rohan.sdsu.edu>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Tue, Jul 20, 1999 4:38 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Virgil Porter (vporter@rohan.sdsu.edu)
on Tuesday, July 20, 1999 at 15:38:42

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JUL 30 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

---

address: 4935 Curry Drive

city: San Diego

state: CA

zip: 92115

Submit: Send to FCC

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.
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cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED DK 99-25

From: Meredith Fox <meredithfox@hotmail.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Tue, Jul 20, 1999 4:35 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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JUL 30 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

This email was submitted by Meredith Fox (meredithfox@hotmail.com)
on Tuesday, July 20, 1999 at 15:35:31

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comments: The airwaves are PUBLIC property. But more and more it seems like the public has lost their right to be represented in the programming that goes out on those airwaves. Instead, big corporate monstors have taken over. I beleive that community radio would be a cultural breath of fresh air. It has gotten so bad in my city that you can flip between five radio stations and hear the EXACT same song or the EXACT same advertisment. We are being suffocated!!!!! Something has to change. Please support microradio.

address: 5801 wEST 68TH Street

city: Edina

state: MN

zip: 55439

Submit: Send to FCC

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

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cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
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Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

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Gary Ruskin--Director, Commercial Alert
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

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ORIGINAL

DK-99-25

From: William Butler <bandco@minn.net>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Tue, Jul 20, 1999 4:33 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED

JUL 30 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

This email was submitted by William Butler (bandco@minn.net)
on Tuesday, July 20, 1999 at 15:33:45

---

comments: Honorable Officials,

We Jeffersonians must stick together and protect citizens. Community FM is a step in this direction.

address: 2579 Ralph St.

city: St Paul

state: MN

zip: 55110

Submit: Send to FCC

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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455 Twelfth Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
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Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

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12. Licensing fees should be affordable to all communities.

Again, we commend Chairman Kennard and the Commission for your willingness to address these issues. We are hopeful that the creation of a new class of low power FM radio licensing becomes a reality during the Chairman's present term. We look forward to working on making the airwaves more accessible for our local communities.

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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

Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University
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Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
Janine Jackson--Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting
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Carl Jensen--Founder, Project Censored
Ellen Braune--Publicist
Jamie Love--Director, Consumer Project on Technology

Efia Nwangaza -- Attorney/Coordinator, Greenville Malcolm X Grassroots
Movement for Self Determination
Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press
Gary Ruskin--Director, Commercial Alert
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

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ORIGINAL

DK.99-25

From: Paul & Rachel Kerbrat <kerbfam@aol.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Wed, Jul 21, 1999 12:13 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Paul & Rachel Kerbrat (kerbfam@aol.com)
on Tuesday, July 20, 1999 at 23:13:55

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JUL 30 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

address: 6729 NE Ralston Road

city: Bainbridge Island

state: WA

zip: 98110

Submit: Send to FCC

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
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition
cc: Americans for Radio Diversity

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.

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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.

Awarding licenses for new low power FM radio stations would empower local communities with a new public forum to express its many voices, cultures, ideas, and needs. Low power radio stations would create much needed public fora for a variety of groups - including community activists, youth, ethnic and linguistic minorities, the religious community, local artists and cultural associations - and provide a forum for dialogue and debate about important local and public interest issues. These kinds of stations would strengthen community identity in urban neighborhoods, rural towns and other communities which are currently too small to win attention from "mainstream", profit-driven media.

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) and Americans for Radio Diversity (ard@radparker.com), 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

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

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6. Problems, technical or otherwise, should be referred to the local voluntary micropower organization for assistance or mediation (e.g. the Ham radio model). The FCC should be the forum of last resort.

7. LPFM must be protected and maintained in the future as radio makes the transition from analog to digital broadcasting.

8. If the FCC intends to license some commercial stations, they must be licensed last. In this instance, there should be a 2 year "headstart" for non-commercial licenses. The right of citizens to communicate is protected by the Constitution and the FCC's mandate. The right to make money through local radio is not a protection under the FCC's mandate.

9. Stations should be locally programmed. However recorded materials such as music, poetry, documentaries, features etc. may be used. Sharing of program materials and resources among micro and community stations is strongly encouraged. No more than 20% of air time from off-site feeds or syndicated tapes.

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JUL 30 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

From: Tom O'Connor <info@y2kfoodnow.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Tue, Jul 20, 1999 11:52 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Tom O'Connor (info@y2kfoodnow.com)
on Tuesday, July 20, 1999 at 22:52:20

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comments: I've spent 16 years working as a sales rep for a group of commercial radio stations in Seattle. Station management will do whatever it takes to increase ratings and market share, with little regard for community values.

In my opinion, low-power radio should reflect the thoughts of the community it serves instead of the homogenized views of the corporate brand machine.

address: 1527 S 2600 E

city: New Harmony

state: UT

zip: 84757

Submit: Send to FCC

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
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Peter Franck, San Francisco
Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.
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