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Dear Honorable Congress:
Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard Of The FCC:
Dear Honorable Commissioners Of The FCC:

From: Prometheus Radio Project <pete_tridish@hotmail.com>
> To: microradio@tao.ca
> Subject: STUDY FINDS CLEAR SIGNALS FOR COMMUNITY RADIO
> Date: Thursday, July 29, 1999 6:05 PM
>
> For Immediate Release:
>
> Committee on Democratic Communications
> National Lawyers Guild
> 558 Capp Street
> San Francisco, CA 94110
> 415.522.9814
> fax 415.362.4119
>
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>
> Low Power FM advocates release study showing interference concerns to be
> unwarranted
>
> Cambridge, MA - According to a technology study released today by a
> consortium of LPFM advocates, implementation of a Low Power FM ("LPFM")
> radio service will not lead to a significant increase in interference
with
> current, full-power stations.
>
> The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering the
> creation of a new, low power radio service. As part of its Notice of
> Proposed Rulemaking, the FCC requested studies of commercially available
> radio receivers to examine whether more stations could be supported on
the
> dial without increased interference. The possibility that new, low power
> radio stations could interfere with full power stations currently in
> operation has been the most significant argument impeding adoption of the

> new service by the FCC.

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> [illegible] request for additional [illegible]

> commissioned by a coalition of LPFM advocates including the National Lawyers
> Guild Committee on Democratic Communications, the Media Access Project, the
> Microradio Empowerment Coalition, the Prometheus Radio Project, the Minority
> Media and Telecommunications Council, and others.
>
> Highlights of the study include:
>
> 10 commonly available radio receivers were exposed to incrementally greater
> levels of potentially conflicting signals, simulating the conditions that

> would result from the presence of LPFM stations on the dial. The results
> suggested that there was room to relax current FCC interference rules.
>
> Full power radio stations are currently permitted to create "blanket"
> interference within a specified geographic radius near the transmission
> site, known as the blanketing area. LPFM signals were shown to create only
> minimal interference within several hundred feet of the transmitters, with
> many receivers showing no interference even within that small radius.
>
> Any interference within this small blanketing area is easily remedied by low
> cost filters, which all radio stations (including the potential LPFM
> stations) are already required to provide to listeners encountering
> interference problems in that zone.
>
> A typical 50,000 watt full-power station is permitted a blanketing area of
> 9150 feet around its transmitter. A 100 watt community station, by contrast,
> would be allowed a blanketing area of 401 feet.

>
> "The National Association of Broadcasters has consistently used buzzwords

> like interference to scare the American public and hide their opposition
to
> increasing the number of voices available over the airwaves" said Alan
Korn,
> an attorney with the National Lawyers Guild Committee for Democratic
> Communications. "Our study shows that opening the airwaves to the public

> with LPFM will cause far less interference than that caused by existing
full
> power stations. These results confirm that the only interference the NAB
is
> really concerned with is interference with their monopoly over the radio
> dial."
>
> "It's good to be able to lay this interference issue to rest" says Jeremy

> Lansman, owner of KYES TV in Anchorage. "It is now more clear than ever
> that LPFM will create far less interference than many already licensed
radio
> stations do. The listening public will only benefit from the many
> innovative new stations that will emerge in this wave of licensing. What
the
> NAB fears is economic competition from low power signals, not the noise."
>
> Full copies of the Broadcast Signal Lab study and its executive summary
are
> available on-line at
> https://gullfoss.www.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/ws.exe/prod/ecfs/comsrch.hts,
> Enter "99-25" in the field "docket #. " Enter "National Lawyers Guild"
in
> the field "filed on behalf of " You can also receive the study by
sending
> an e-mail to: aakorn@igc.org. Copies of the executive summary may also
be
> obtained by fax by leaving a message with the National Lawyers Guild
> Committee on Democratic Communications at (415) 522-9814.
>
>
> For additional information, please contact:
>
> Jeremy Lansman, Radio Engineer, owner of broadcast station KYES,
> jeremydl@kyes.com; (907) 727-5959

> Alan Korn Attorney, National Lawyers Guild Committee on Democratic
> Communications, aakorn@igc.org; (415) 362-5700
> Pete triDish, Prometheus Radio Project,
> petetridish@hotmail.com, (215) 476-2385
> Cheryl A. Leanza, Deputy Director of Media Access Project,
> cleanza@essential.org, (202) 232-4300.
>
> ---end---

Date: 7/28/99
From: Mr.Joseph D'Alessandro
94 Angola Estates
Lewes,Delaware 19958
302-945-1554

Subject:Member # 8512 7568 1596 4858 ACLU

Subject:Member People For the American Way
2000 M Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036

Subject Member: REFORM PARTY
P.O. Box 9
Dallas, Texas 75221
Democratic Party:
Republican Party: