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Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)

Creation of a Low)
Power Radio Service)

MM Docket No. 99-25

RM-9208
RM-9242

Comments of
WZLM FM / DALE BROADCASTING, INC.

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For 10 years our radio station, WZLM FM has served the communities of Dadeville and Alexander City, Alabama. We realize that our license is allotted to us by the federal government to serve the needs of our community. During that time we have taken that responsibility very seriously and have been a good community servant. The creation of low power FM stations would hamper our stations ability to continue many of the services that we now provide. Furthermore, we believe that the challenges these new stations would face would also hamper their abilities to provide such services.

It all comes down to money. In order for my station or any station to provide proper community service you have to have people on the payroll. Our radio station employs a full time news and public service director insuring that we do our job in providing proper community service. Unfortunately, my station is a minority. Most stations our size consider their local news coverage to be reading out of the towns local newspaper. They simply can't afford to give the community the local coverage that the FCC originally intended them to give. The creation of more radio stations will only compound this problem. Yes, you will have more stations, but you will have more stations that can not afford to do anything more than hook up to a satellite service and let it play. There simply are not enough advertising dollars on the streets of small town America to support more radio stations.

During the ten years that our station has been on the air we have seen stations pop up in neighboring cities an channels close to ours resulting in interference. Creating more

stations will compromise the integrity of the FM band and will set back digital radio which is the real future of our industry.

The FCC already has problems monitoring stations that currently are on the air. It seems impossible that they would be able to handle thousands of new stations that would be popping up in communities all over America.

The 80-90 Docket was an FCC mistake from the 1980's. Responsible broadcasters bailed the commission out of that one in the 1990's. Let's not repeat history as we enter the new millennium. Low power FM is a bad idea.