ORIGINAL

DK 99-25

From: goatgirl <goatgirl@earthling.net>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNESS),K...
Date: Fri, Jul 16, 1999 3:19 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED
AUG 02 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

=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,
Bill Bradley, and George W Bush
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

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.

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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), 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.

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

1. Microradio licenses should be awarded for non-commercial use only. The current radio spectrum is dominated by commercial media. LPFM licenses should go to non-commercial community groups who want to use radio to communicate with their neighbors, not make profit from them.

2. Licenses should be held locally, be non-transferable, affordable to all communities, easy to apply for and limited to one per license holder; they should NOT be businesses.

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pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines. Their property should be returned. They should be granted equal opportunity in applying for and receiving new licenses.

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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.

Signed,

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Peter Franck, San Francisco
Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.
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Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
name=Anthony Retkowski
street=663 W Grace, #204
city=Chicago
state=IL
zip=60613
=Send to FCC

ORIGINAL

DK-9925

From: Ryan P. Duncan <turnbullac@sprynet.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Fri, Jul 16, 1999 5:12 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

This email was submitted by Ryan P. Duncan (turnbullac@sprynet.com)
on Friday, July 16, 1999 at 16:12:12

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comments: I fully support the establishment of LPFM radio stations in the US. As it is right now, giant profiteering radio networks threaten the rich diversity and localized nature of the public airwaives. The influx of corporate capital, while benificial for some, does create unfair entry barriers, especially as far as local, community based efforts are concerned. LPFM would provide much needed opportunities for ordinary people to broadcast a wide range of programming.

address: 2754 N. Hampden Court

address2: #503

city: Chiacgo

state: IL

zip: 60614

Submit: Send to FCC

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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

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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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Ben Bagdikian--University of California, Berkeley
Loretta Ross--Executive Director, National Center for Human Rights Education
David C. Korten, Author, and Chair of the Positive Futures Network, publishers of YES Magazine
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

DK-99-25

ORIGINAL

From: Susan Troutman Lee <st005d@mail.rochester.edu>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNESS),K...
Date: Fri, Jul 16, 1999 12:15 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
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Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Stuart Shea
1401 W. Elmdale
Chicago IL 60660

ORIGINAL

DK-99-25

From: "m. brassell" <mug@jps.net>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNESS),K...
Date: Fri, Jul 16, 1999 1:10 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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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

Robert W. McChesney-- University Of Illinois, Urbana

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Gary Ruskin--Director, Commercial Alert

Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

ORIGINAL

DK 99-25

From: Christof Demont-Heinrich <cbh@lamar.ColoState.EDU>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD),K4DOM.K4PO2(SNESS,MPOWELL),K...
Date: Thu, Jul 15, 1999 12:32 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED
AUG 02 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
cc: President Clinton, Hillary ClintonVice President Al Gore,
Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

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.

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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), 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.

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

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pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines. Their property should be returned. They should be granted equal opportunity in applying for and receiving new licenses.

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Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
name=Mary Brassell
street=19313 Cooper Rd.
city=Nevada City
state=CA
zip=95959
=Send to FCC

ORIGINAL

DK-99-25

From: Janelle Moody <mood0020@tc.umn.edu>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Fri, Jul 16, 1999 5:23 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Janelle Moody (mood0020@tc.umn.edu)
on Friday, July 16, 1999 at 16:23:51

---

comments: Radio is one of the most influential modes of communication-diversity would be nice!

address: 231-132nd Ave. NE

city: Blaine

state: MN

zip: 55434

Submit: Send to FCC

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RECEIVED
AUG 02 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
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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

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Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

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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

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5. The Commission should grant full amnesty for the microbroadcast pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines. Their property should be returned. They should be granted equal opportunity in applying for and receiving new licenses.

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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.

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

ORIGINAL

DK-99-25

From: Jeff T. Havener <jhaves@southwind.net>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Fri, Jul 16, 1999 5:26 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Jeff T. Havener (jhaves@southwind.net)
on Friday, July 16, 1999 at 16:26:22

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AUG 02 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

comments: I fully support the creation of an LPFM radio system in the US!

address: 907 W. River Blvd.

city: Wichita

state: KS

zip: 67203-3338

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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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