

DK-99-25

From: Timothy White <tim_white@hotmail.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Wed, Jul 21, 1999 7:48 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Timothy White (tim_white@hotmail.com) on Wednesday, July 21, 1999 at 06:48:11

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AUG 02 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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

address: P.O. Box 3984

city: Portales

state: NM

zip: 88130

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

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

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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 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 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.
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3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas and up to 250 watts in rural areas.
4. The Commission should NOT diminish new low-power stations to "secondary status." It would be a tragedy to take away licenses from low-power community stations just because the Commission subsequently granted a power increase to a pre-existing station or granted a new high power license somewhere nearby.
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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.
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10. Licenses should be awarded to unincorporated non-commercial associations, and non-profit organizations.

11. Within two years new spectrum space (including any future digital spectrum space) should be allocated for continued expansion of microradio broadcasters so that any community group that wishes to broadcast has access to available spectrum space (frequencies). Further, all manufacturers of consumer radio receivers for sale in the United States should be required to include this spectrum set aside for microradio broadcasters.

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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Steering Committee:
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Diane Fleming, Philadelphia
Peter Franck, San Francisco
Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.
Alan Korn, San Francisco
Greg Ruggiero, New York City

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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

From: Richard F Claypool <r_claypo@csunix1.lvc.edu>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Wed, Jul 21, 1999 2:56 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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This email was submitted by Richard F Claypool (r_claypo@csunix1.lvc.edu) on Wednesday, July 21, 1999 at 01:56:33

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

comments: In a world dominated by coperate radio stations and bland conformest broadcasting the idea of low powered fm stations is refreshing. As in indivigual who is involved in promoting community awareness and often unplayed artists the idea of a station and or stations in the community for the cummity and by the community is a breath of fresh air. I support the campain for mycro radio stations and feel that the benefits are far reaching and will enhance the quality of the radio medium as a whole.

address: 700 Shade AVE

city: Pittsburgh

state: PA

zip: 15202

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

MM Docket No. 99-25
Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

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Signed,

MEC Honorary Chair:
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
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Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
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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

From: <Londonet@aol.com>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNESS),K...
Date: Sun, Jul 25, 1999 7:02 PM
Subject: In Support of Non Commercial LPFM: MM Docket No. 99-25

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: Congressional Representative Lois Capps
 MM Docket No. 99-25
 Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

I support non commercial Low Power FM (LPFM) radio. I believe that technological progress has put democratic communication, in the United States of America, at great risk of becoming a concept rather than the reality it was meant to be. Our government has sided with the wealthy corporate broadcasting machine ever since the broadcasting spectrum was mandated to be managed in the interest of the public. Community involvement communications needs a forum that isn't tied to a medium that is dependent on outside sources for funding, whereby the financiers become dictators of content. This of course can lead to fascism. Without taking away the unfair advantage for manipulating and controlling the public's point of view, non commercial LPFM offers the most affordable means for a community to begin the process of getting involved without the unfair influence of those who can afford "Free Speech," over the airwaves. The conducting of public affairs for private advantage, has helped to create a toxic level of pollution in our environment and in our minds.

Our local communities need spectrum space, no matter how small, to have the opportunity to produce affordable local originated programming. Whether community or individual, the right of expression, even by those less fortunate, inspires civilized public discourse which can bring our communities together, insuring a better tomorrow.

I fully support the Microradio Empowerment Coalition/National Lawyers Guild/Committee on Democratic Communications comments in regards to the FCC's proposed rule, MM Docket 99-25.

Rick London
 Londonet@aol.com
 P.O. Box 1316
 Nipomo, CA 93444

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 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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CC: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("mec@tao.ca", "extradio@fix.net", "anne...

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

July 28, 1999

Federal Communications Commissions
1919 M. Street
Room 222, NW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: MM Docket 99-25

Dear Chairman Kennard and Members of the Commission:

This letter is written in opposition to the proposed rulemaking for allowing low power FM (LPFM) radio service.

The concept in the proposal that somehow it would help minorities is ill conceived and without merit. The proposal is to almost exclusively locate the LPFMs in small communities, with modest concentrations of minority populations. Major markets, with their significant minority populations would not be affected because of the concentration of existing signals in those areas.

Small market radio stations have always made airtime available for members of the representative populations.

Additionally, there is no question that there will be interference, possibly very critical, with existing frequencies if the proposed rule is allowed to become effective.

We oppose the proposal because, in the end, the listening public will not be well served by the changes and ultimately will have bad radio service.

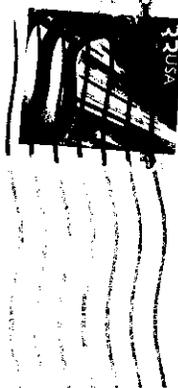
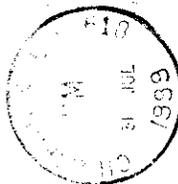
Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Allison

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WIAI 99fm

**IAI Broadcasting, Inc.
4 N. Vermillion Street
Danville, Illinois 61832**



**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSIONS
1919 M STREET
ROOM 222 NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20554**

Handwritten: **WIAI**
99fm



ORIGINAL

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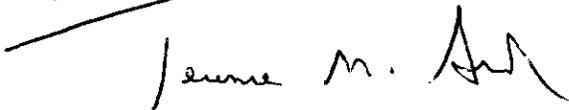
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WIAI 99fm
IAI Broadcasting, Inc.
4 N. Vermillion Street
Danville, Illinois 61832



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSIONS
1919 M STREET
ROOM 222, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

TUB 204



ORIGINAL

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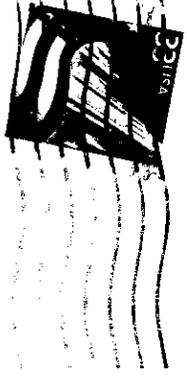
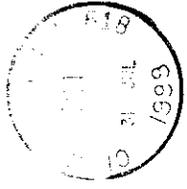
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Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Giles

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WIAI 99fm
IAI Broadcasting, Inc.
4 N. Vermillion Street
Danville, Illinois 61832



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSIONS
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TOP SECRET



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James M. Jones

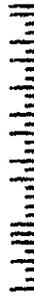
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LAI Broadcasting, Inc.
4 N. Vermillion Street
Danville, Illinois 61832



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSIONS
1919 M STREET
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WASHINGTON, DC 20554

Handwritten signature or initials, possibly "W.P. 2004".



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Washington, DC 20554

RE: MM Docket 99-25

Dear Chairman Kennard and Members of the Commission:

This letter is written in opposition to the proposed rulemaking for allowing low power FM (LPFM) radio service.

The concept in the proposal that somehow it would help minorities is ill conceived and without merit. The proposal is to almost exclusively locate the LPFMs in small communities, with modest concentrations of minority populations. Major markets, with their significant minority populations would not be affected because of the concentration of existing signals in those areas.

Small market radio stations have always made airtime available for members of the representative populations.

Additionally, there is no question that there will be interference, possibly very critical, with existing frequencies if the proposed rule is allowed to become effective.

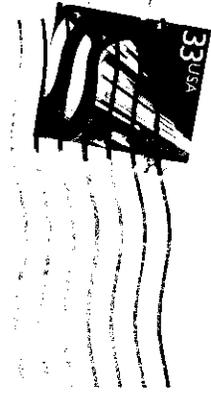
We oppose the proposal because, in the end, the listening public will not be well served by the changes and ultimately will have bad radio service.

Respectfully submitted,



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WIAI 99fm
IAI Broadcasting, Inc.
4 N. Vermillion Street
Danville, Illinois 61832



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WASHINGTON, DC 20554

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July 28, 1999

Federal Communications Commissions
1919 M. Street
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Washington, DC 20554

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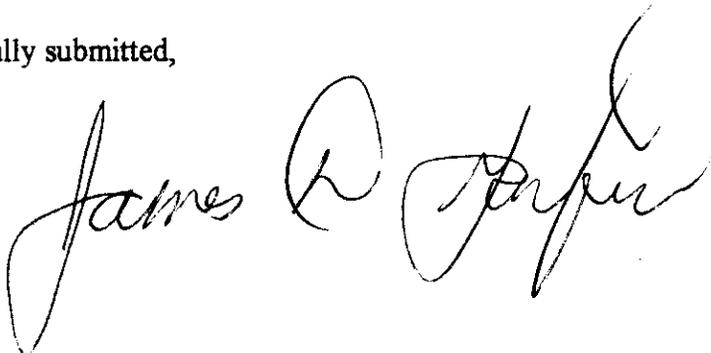
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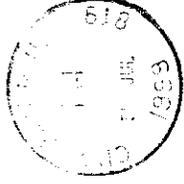


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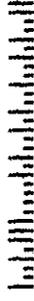
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Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Barnes

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May 25, 1999

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
1919 M Street
Room 222, NW
Washington, DC 20554

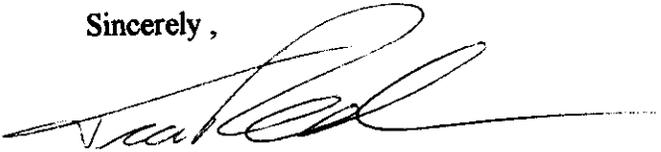
MM Docket 99-25

Dear Chairman and Commissioners,

I would like to take this time to comment on the proposed rule making on low power FM radio service. although some may agree with this proposal, it will ultimately be a detriment to the radio industry. The small market stations are already meeting all of the supposed advantages of licensing LPFM stations. And by allowing LPFM stations into the market the FCC is freely opening the doorway for increased piracy to fill the airways. I hope that your decision on LPFM will be to not allow the proposal to become active.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely ,



Travis Redburn
WACF/WPRS - Paris, IL.

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