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JUL 28 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

99-25

From: Tom Ballantyne <fellini@sfsu.edu>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD)
Date: Thu, Jul 22, 1999 6:49 PM
Subject: Comments to the Chairman

Tom Ballantyne (fellini@sfsu.edu) writes:

Chairman Kennard,

This is probably the wrong place to submit a comment on your recent proposals regarding low-power FM broadcasting. But I would like to make one: What a great idea! I've just seen your news release from the May 13th roundtable discussion moderated by Randy Naylor of the National Council of Churches. I completely agree with your statements in the release. The airwaves belong to the public, but so many communities are simply not served by broadcasters who have to go for the mass audience for economic reasons. That means a lot of stations will try to reach the largest audience or the choicest demographics -- that often excludes many communities of interest in this country. I believe the same is true for urban dwellers as for rural folks. My family lives in a rural area near San Francisco -- Montara. It's near Half Moon Bay, a place you may remember from your days at Stanford. A low-power FM station serving our rural coastal area would be able to program to farmers, fisherme!
n (and fisherwomen), agricultura
l workers from Oaxaca and other parts of Mexico, and other communities of interest here. Low-power FM would be a boon to our community and, for that matter, the whole country. Commercial broadcasters are now taking up a lot of space on the radio dial. I think they can afford to make a little room for the rest of us. As you remind us, the airwaves belong to the public and the broadcasting industry uses them because we have allowed them to. I think that the people should be able to reclaim a small part of the spectrum for the benefit of the many small communities that are greatly underserved or sometimes ignored altogether. Again, I applaud your extraordinary initiative. Let me know how I can support your initiative, Chariman Kennard.

Best regards,

Tom Ballantyne
Montara, Calif.
fellini@sfsu.edu
650-728-5593

Server protocol: HTTP/1.0
Remote host: 206.169.228.161
Remote IP address: 206.169.228.161

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From: Kevin Mackley <mackley@Xmission.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Mon, Jul 26, 1999 4:28 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Kevin Mackley (mackley@Xmission.com)
on Monday, July 26, 1999 at 15:28:33

---

comments: I feel strongly that the ability to own my own radio station has passed me by due to the current economic vehicle that has driven up the price of even the small "mom & pop" stations. I support the move to create low-power radio licenses. Once created and issued, my dream of owning my own radio station will again become a possiblity.

address: 483 W. 150 S.

city: Provo

state: Utah

zip: 84663

Submit: Send to FCC

RECEIVED

JUL 28 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 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.

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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) 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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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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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
George Gerbner--Founder, Cultural Environment Movement
Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
Janine Jackson--Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting
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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

ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: Elizabeth Flannery <eliz_flan@hotmail.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Mon, Jul 26, 1999 4:30 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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JUL 28 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

This email was submitted by Elizabeth Flannery (eliz_flan@hotmail.com)
on Monday, July 26, 1999 at 15:30:25

---

address: 50 Kendrick Place #3

city: Amherst

state: Ma.

zip: 01002

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
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Alan Korn, San Francisco
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Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University
Nancy Kranich--Librarian
Ron Daniels--Executive Director ,Center for Constitutional Rights
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Janine Jackson--Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting
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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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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: "Matthew Lasek" <mlasek@hotmail.com>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD),K2DOM.K2PO1(gtristan),K4DOM....
Date: Mon, Jul 26, 1999 7:13 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED 99-15
JUL 28 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
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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

I am in full support of all of the statements above. I truly hope that you will decide in favor of this iniative--one that serves the interests of the majority of American people--over the all-too-frequently chosen stance that favors a select group of corporate interests.

Sincerely,
Matthew Lasek
103 Arden Blvd
West Hempstead, NY 11552

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ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: Wayman <wayman@netrox.net>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNESS),K...
Date: Mon, Jul 26, 1999 8:01 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED
JUL 28 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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 ClintonVice President Al Gore,
Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

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Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego
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Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=Freedom
name=Wayman Luy
street=575 Coconut Cir
city=Weston
state=FL
zip=33326
=Send to FCC

ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

99-25

From: Conrad Oho <conradoho@yahoo.com>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD),K4DOM.K4PO2(SNESS,MPOWELL),K...
Date: Mon, Jul 26, 1999 8:02 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on 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: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

RECEIVED

JUL 28 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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

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No. of Copies rec'd 3
List ABCDE

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Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=In my personal experience listening to Free Radio Berkeley 104.1 FM, I have found the quality and relavence of programming to be of the best available on the airwaves. It was my favorite radio station by far, and a tragedy to the community that they were forced to stop broadcasting. I was able to recieve their signal in Marin County across S.F. Bay fairly well.
Bring back Free Radio Berkeley!

I agree completely with the statements made in this letter.

Thank You
name=Conrad OHO
street=141 Lansdale Ave
city=Fairfax
state=CA
zip=94930
=Send to FCC

ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: Rob Wellens <rwellens@colorhouse.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Mon, Jul 26, 1999 8:47 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

99-25

This email was submitted by Rob Wellens (rwellens@colorhouse.com)
on Monday, July 26, 1999 at 19:47:12

---

address: 5538 Penn Ave. S.

city: Minneapolis

state: MN

zip: 55419

Submit: Send to FCC

RECEIVED
JUL 28 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
Commissioner Michael Powell
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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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Gary Ruskin--Director, Commercial Alert

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

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

ORIGINAL

99-25

From: Eric Shelly <remote@webtv.net>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Mon, Jul 26, 1999 9:45 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED

JUL 28 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

This email was submitted by Eric Shelly (remote@webtv.net)
on Monday, July 26, 1999 at 20:45:38

---

comments: I am writing in for support of Lpfm radio.
The only thing I do not completely support is paragraph or article 1 on non-commercial broadcasting.
I believe in commercial broadcasting within the micro-power movement only.
If I need to sell commercials to support paying the utilities (power) or if I am licensed and want to transfer or sell my license or radio station to another independent or micro-broadcaster....I shall have the right to.
Ask the NAB association on their situation on XFM or (satellite radio).
Are they gonna stop us from listening to satellite or DMX?
I am one of the many people who will be applying for license if this bill passes.
I think corporations and mergers made the medium into state runned government radio stations dictating what we should listen to.
With the practice of consultants and mergers of record companies have made the radio stations boring...and it sounds like tired old technology.
Being an avid Top 40 music listener...the stations are sounding alittle too tight and narrow for my taste.
I think it's time for some new ideas and alittle different direction.
My other problem is that in supporting LPFM....it does not lean on bias left-wing applications....or mostly minority approval (licensing) because of corporate mergers.

address: 2708 Jones Rd

city: Walnut Creek,

state: Ca.

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List ABCDE

zip: 94596

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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David Barsamian--Director, Alternative Radio
Stuart Ewen -- Author
Elaine Bernard--Harvard Trade Union Program
Al Lewis--Organizer ("Grandpa" from the Munsters)
Dee Dee Halleck--Deep Dish TV
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