ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: Justine McCabe <riverbnd@javanet.com>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNESS),K...
Date: Tue, Jul 27, 1999 4:15 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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

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:

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

Additional Comments=
name=McCabe, Justine
street=88 Cherniske Road
city=New Milford
state=CT
zip=06776
=Send to FCC

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

ORIGINAL

From: Heather Shepheard <hds0006@unt.edu>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD),K4DOM.K4PO2(SNESS,MPOWELL),K...
Date: Tue, Jul 27, 1999 1:04 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
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Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
name=Heather Shepheard
street=2601 W Oak Shores
city=Aubrey
state=TX
zip=76227
=Send to FCC

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

99-25

From: Andrew Burnes <ABurnes@ASISOLUTIONS.COM>
To: "'bkennard@fcc.gov'" <bkennard@fcc.gov>, "'sness@f...
Date: Tue, Jul 27, 1999 2:16 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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Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth
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Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author
Andrew Burnes--Licensed Broadcaster, Musician

ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

99-15

From: Angela Glaser <glasera@vmsb.csd.mu.edu>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Tue, Jul 27, 1999 2:20 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Angela Glaser (glasera@vms.csd.mu.edu)
on Tuesday, July 27, 1999 at 13:20:04

---

address: 2628b N. Humboldt #1

city: Milwaukee

state: WI

zip: 53212

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
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Federal Communications Commission
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cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
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cc: Americans for Radio Diversity

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Alan Korn, San Francisco
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

99-25

From: Anne Geske <Anne.J.Geske@HealthPartners.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Tue, Jul 27, 1999 2:28 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Anne Geske (Anne.J.Geske@HealthPartners.com)
on Tuesday, July 27, 1999 at 13:28:29

---

comments: I support the creation of an LPFM radio system in the US. I believe an LPFM radio system is a critically important step to further freedom of speech and expression in the current radio business environment in America.

address: 13280 Glenhurst Ave. S.

city: Savage

state: MN

zip: 55378

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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List ABCDE

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.

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:

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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.

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.

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

ORIGINAL EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: Kate Heffernan <kateheff1@go.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Tue, Jul 27, 1999 2:33 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Kate Heffernan (kateheff1@go.com)
on Tuesday, July 27, 1999 at 13:33:41

---

comments: In a constantly changing world where technology brings continents together but keeps neighbors and fellow community members apart, we need community radio. If passed, these low powered FM radio stations will most likely provide opportunity for thousands of Americans to hear things
about their own community--whatever that may be. This type of forum will also be an opportunity for the many cultures in the United States to become more familiar with each other. As most people know, this is an important step in battling the racism and classism which have plagued our society. It will be further opportunity to encourage people to think and to arrive at their own conclusions. This will be a refreshing break from commercial radio, where what goes on the air seems to be dictated by rich moguls from half way across the country. I, for one, will support and listen to these low powered radio stations if they become available. Thank you for considering this important issue.

RECEIVED
JUL 28 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

address: 4225 12th Ave. S.

city: Minneapolis

state: MN

zip: 55407

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
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cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
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99-25

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JUL 28 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

From: Daniel Leo Huss <dlhuss@norstan.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Tue, Jul 27, 1999 2:33 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Daniel Leo Huss (dlhuss@norstan.com)
on Tuesday, July 27, 1999 at 13:33:44

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comments: Since the Telecom Reform Act of 1996, American Radio listeners have suffered. Ask any honest citizen and they will tell you the community is not being served by broadcasters that are using our airwaves for a profit.

I support LPFM, and do not want the decision to issue LPFM licenses based on the price paid. This will only exascerbate the sorry state of American radio of selling out to the highest bidder with the single motivation of profit before serving the community.

YES to LPFM!

No to auctioning the licenses to the highest bidder!

address: 5101 Shady Oak Road

city: Minnetonka

state: MN

zip: 55343

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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