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DK-99-25

RECEIVED
JUL 28 1999
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

From: Luis A. Quintero <louq@bellsouth.net>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Sat, Jul 17, 1999 10:30 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Luis A. Quintero (louq@bellsouth.net)
on Saturday, July 17, 1999 at 09:29:59

---

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

address: 6821 W 2 Lane

city: Hialeah

state: FL

zip: 33014

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
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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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.

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.

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.

3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas and up to 250 watts in rural areas.

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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

Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology
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Nancy Kranich--Librarian
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Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

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JUL 28 1999

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

From: Randy Holmes <randy_holmes@hotmail.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Sun, Jul 18, 1999 2:58 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Randy Holmes (randy_holmes@hotmail.com)
on Sunday, July 18, 1999 at 13:58:12

---

comments: With the revolutionary technolgies available to people nowadays, it seems just good sense to open up the airwaves to people like those in small towns or remote villages that need a common way to communicate. Those in urban centers with common ideological , religious, or other interests, another common way to be with one another. Open up the airwaves. The WIRED world is where it's at for commerical content. Low power FM stations all across the country will do nothing but make us stronger and freer. Thank you.

address: 1811 Hampton Blvd. Ce

city: Norfolk

state: VA

zip: 23517

Submit: Send to FCC

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Commissioner Michael Powell
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Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

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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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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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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 DK-99-25

From: World Stewardship Institute <wsi@ecostewards.org>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD),K4DOM.K4PO2(SNESS,MPOWELL),K...
Date: Sun, Jul 18, 1999 5:54 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED
JUL 2 8 1999
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
Commissioner Gloria Tristani,
Commissioner Michael Powell
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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 Bush, Jr.
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

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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=Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

I completely agree with this letter and I commend you on your efforts to open this topic for discussion and action. There is a very large section of society which is at a disadvantage for use of radio waves. The mega-corporations have all but silenced the commumity voice on the air, which is a sad, unfortunate result for us all. Please consider adopting the recommendations of this letter.

Repsectfully Yours,

Brian Talbot
Sonoma State University
Board Liaison
Social Sciences Representative
name=Brian Talbot
street=845 Russell Ave #5c
city=Santa Rosa
state=CA
zip=95403
=Send to FCC

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Federal Communications Commission
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From: Steve Buettner <astrapia@hotmail.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Sun, Jul 18, 1999 12:36 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Steve Buettner (astrapia@hotmail.com)
on Sunday, July 18, 1999 at 11:36:08
---

comments: One of the sad things about American media today is the incredible lack of variety available. This is one way to address that lack and allow minority social and artistic interests a chance to communicate with one another and with folks outside their immediate circles.

address: P.O. Box 258

city: Green Mountain Falls

state: CO

zip: 80819

Submit: Send to FCC

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
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Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

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DK-99-25

RECEIVED
JUL 2 8 1999
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

From: Caterina Gouvis <cgouvis@ui.urban.org>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Sat, Jul 17, 1999 1:01 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Caterina Gouvis (cgouvis@ui.urban.org)
on Saturday, July 17, 1999 at 12:01:57

---

comments: There is no doubt that low power radio stations will have public support. Radio should be responsive to the local community and micro
stations will be able to do this. In a day of ever-growing corporate dynasties, we are losing the opportunities for expression. Please let us have our radio back.

address: 2818 North Glade Street, NW

city: Washington

state: DC

zip: 20016

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

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

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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

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

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DK-99-25

From: Bob Tunks <bobtunks@concentric.net>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD),K4DOM.K4PO2(SNESS,MPOWELL),K...
Date: Sat, Jul 17, 1999 2:05 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED
JUL 2 8 1999
Federal Communications Commission
Office of 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

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Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author
Bob Tunks--Sonoma County Center for Peace and Justice
Additional Comments=
name=Bob Tunks
street=82 Sequoisa Circle
city=Santa Rosa
state=Ca
zip=95401
=Send to FCC

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From: Gabe S. Ormsby <gabeo@bitstream.net>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Mon, Jul 26, 1999 11:47 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

99-25

This email was submitted by Gabe S. Ormsby (gabeo@bitstream.net)
on Monday, July 26, 1999 at 22:47:52

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

address: 220 E 19th St Apt 103

city: Minneapolis

state: MN

zip: 55403

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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