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From: Erik Hoover <hoov0028@tc.umn.edu>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Mon, Aug 2, 1999 1:31 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

99-25

This email was submitted by Erik Hoover (hoov0028@tc.umn.edu) on Monday, August 2, 1999 at 12:31:20

comments: Amen.

address: 4405 Hwy 7 Apt J

city: St Louis Park

state: MN

zip: 55416

Submit: Send to FCC

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AUG 12 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.

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.
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.
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.
9. Stations should be locally programmed. However recorded materials such as music, poetry, documentaries, features etc. may be used. Sharing of program materials and resources among micro and community stations is strongly encouraged. No more than 20% of air time from off-site feeds or syndicated tapes.
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,

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

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

Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego

Juliet Schor--Harvard University

Mark Crispin Miller--New York University

Laura Flanders--national producer for Pacifica Radio

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

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ORIGINAL

From: Theotis Jones <realy10@hotmail.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Sun, Aug 1, 1999 12:05 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

99-25

This email was submitted by Theotis Jones (realy10@hotmail.com) on Sunday, August 1, 1999 at 11:05:04

comments: The large voice of the people is stifled through the even larger voice of the big business media.

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AUG 12 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

address: 2923 Hyatt Lane

city: Arlington

state: VA

zip: 21032

Submit: Send to FCC

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
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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

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From: joseph dalessandro <jdman@magpage.com>
To: C BUSH <Cbush@fcc.gov>, CWRIGHT <cwright@fcc.gov>, ...
Date: Wed, Aug 4, 1999 1:26 PM
Subject: YES or NO NAB FRITS

99-25

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YES or NO NAB

AUG 12 1999

PREFACE:

Frits i will whip you in Court Your NAB Stations Refuse to
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

put
my Wife Olga on the air even just once a Month 2 hours you know why she
plays Black R&B Group Harmony Music From 1940's & 50's
Plus she Teaches about the Groups and Music. The Red Necks The Country
Bumkins are afraid they will loose Advertising Dollars to Promote Black
Kids from 1950's.
Discrimination Etc.

IN TIME
God Bless

NAB Stations Cause Huge

Interfearence, CREATE CHAOS
ON THE AIRWAVES. The NAB Wants LPFM FCC Docket MM
99-25
to be the Fall Guy. Solve the Problem FCC give LPFM Equal Spectrum
How????
Go out and Limit The NAB Stations to 10 to 3000 WATTS as stated in the
1934
Communications Act to Serve Only your Community, Not Several States.

TO:
Honorable Congress:
FCC:
Honorable Chairman Kennard:
Honorable Commi8ssioners:
NAB:
NAB Legal Team:

Frits You have a problem with two WORDS YES or NO Where is my Trust Fund

Yes or No
Your Study Said Maybe, Should, Probably and Who Knows LPFM will cause
some
Interfearence ?????? Frits i want a Simple Yes or No.

Frits we don't want to Fight we are Probably Old Viet Nam Buddies
Fighting
for Civil and Constitutional Rights.

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*****PUNITIVE DAMAGE*****

LISTEN FRITS IF YOU SCREW THIS LPFM UP THREW YOUR LIES I WILL TAKE YOU TO CIVIL RIGHTS COURT FOR A JURY TRIAL FOR CIVIL AND MY CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT AS AN AMERICAN! AND I WILL WIN IN A JURY TRIAL.

Frits your more of a thief then i thought, IBOC is going to make the Consumer buy all new receivers where's the grounds for arguing against lpfm on the basis of poor performance from some receivers "PLUS THIS IS HERESAY". the consumers with those under-engineered under-performing receivers are gonna have to buy new ones. simple

HERE WE GO AGAIN THE NAB TEST ARE HERESAY ANOTHER SCAM 6 Million Might ENCOUNTER INTERFERENCE???????????? 6 Million is a Drop in the Ocean If true. "YES or NO Frits

NAB's press release about its Written Comments.

NAB tests "show" that 6 million listeners might encounter interference from

LP-100s -- out of all the listeners in 60 markets that were examined.

6 million listeners out of HOW MANY MILLIONS in those 60 markets? EVEN IF everything the NAB claims is true (Ahem!!), this sounds like a localized, manageable problem to me!!

For Your Infomation: PASS FCC DOCKET MM 99-25

TO: The FCC :
TO: Ed Frits of The NAB:

Hey Ed Your Station is way over Rated he only needs 200 watts to serve his Community not 100 Thousand Watts to serve 6 states. There SEVERAL STATIONS ACROSS UNITED STATES WITH HUGE INTERFEARENCE PROBLEMS DUE TO HUGE ILLEGAL WATTAGE OF THOUSANDS!!

Heres a Prime Example of Misuse of the 1934 & 1996 Act's.

Ocean City Md. is 10 miles long and 3 miles wide,a 200 watt Transmitter with a Cicular Polarization Omni Antenna would

Cover the Community with No problem You the FCC Licensed NAB Froggy 99.9 FM in Ocean City Md. for 100 Thousand Watts he transmits to 6 states is this communitry radio i think not this bum is keeping me and others in 6 states from useing 99.9 FM Frequincey,you the FCC need to go around the country and knock down all these stations to 10 to 3000 watts,this is your interfearence problem,a good lawyer can make a case of this,DISCRIMINATION ETC.

PS FORGOT TO MENTION THE CLOSEST 99.9 FM IS CT. & GA.THIS BUM HAS EASTCOAST TIED UP:

Date: 8/4/99
From: Mr.Joseph D'Alessandro
94 Angola Estates
Lewes,Delaware 19958
302-945-1554

Subject:Member # 8512 7568 1596 4858 ACLU

Subject:Member People For the American Way
2000 M Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036

Subject Member: REFORM PARTY
P.O. Box 9
Dallas, Texas 75221
Democratic Party:
Republican Party:

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ORIGINAL

From: joseph dalessandro <jdman@magpage.com>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(FCCINFO)
Date: Wed, Aug 4, 1999 9:33 AM
Subject: fcc

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AUG 12 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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 where's the grounds for arguing against lpfm on the basis of
 poor performance from some receivers "PLUS THIS IS
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EASTCOAST
TIED UP:

Date: 7/28/99
From: Mr. Joseph D'Alessandro
94 Angola Estates
Lewes, Delaware 19958
302-945-1554

Subject: Member # 8512 7568 1596 4858 ACLU

Subject: Member People For the American Way
2000 M Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036

Subject Member: REFORM PARTY
P.O. Box 9
Dallas, Texas 75221
Democratic Party:
Republican Party:

ORIGINAL

FX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: joseph dalessandro <jdman@magpage.com>
To: BARBER <gbarber@nab.org>, BARRY UMANSKY <bumansky@...
Date: Tue, Aug 3, 1999 8:12 PM
Subject: CLEAR SIGNAL 6 Million is a drop in the OCEAN

Handwritten initials: MA-25

CLEAR SIGNAL 6 Million is a drop in the OCEAN

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AUG 12 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

TO;

FCC:
Honorable Congress:
Honorable Chairman Kennard FCC:

This Issue With Billy Tauzin and Ed Frits of The NAB about LPFM
Community Service FCC Docket
MM 99-25, is nothing but a Scam, to Line There Pockets With Money and
Power

LPFM will create far less interference than many already
licensed radio
stations do. The listening public will only benefit from
the
many
innovative new stations that will emerge in this wave of
licensing. What the
NAB fears is economic competition from low power signals, not
the noise."

STUDY FINDS CLEAR SIGNALS FOR COMMUNITY RADIO LPFM

Broadcast Signal Lab,

LLP.

For Immediate Release:
Committee on Democratic Communications
National Lawyers Guild
558 Capp Street
San Francisco, CA 94110
415.522.9814
fax 415.362.4119

STUDY FINDS CLEAR SIGNALS FOR COMMUNITY RADIO

Low Power FM advocates release study showing
interference
concerns to be unwarranted

Cambridge, MA - . According to a technology study released
today by a
consortium of LPFM advocates, implementation of a Low Power FM
("LPFM")
radio service will not lead to a significant increase in

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interference with
current, full-power stations.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently
considering the
creation of a new, low power radio service. As part of its

Notice of
Proposed Rulemaking, the FCC requested studies of
commercially
available
radio receivers to examine whether more stations could be
supported on the
dial without increased interference. The possibility that
new,
low power
radio stations could interfere with full power stations
currently in
operation has been the most significant argument impeding
adoption of the
new service by the FCC.

In response to the FCC's request for additional research,
a
receiver
engineering study was conducted by Broadcast Signal Lab, LLP.
The
study was
commissioned by a coalition of LPFM advocates including the
National Lawyers
Guild Committee on Democratic Communications, the Media Access
Project, the
Microradio Empowerment Coalition, the Prometheus Radio Project,
the Minority
Media and Telecommunications Council, and others.

Highlights of the study include:

10 commonly available radio receivers were exposed to
incrementally greater
levels of potentially conflicting signals, simulating the
conditions that
would result from the presence of LPFM stations on the dial.

The results
suggested that there was room to relax current FCC
interference rules.

Full power radio stations are currently permitted to
create
"blanket"
interference within a specified geographic radius near the
transmission
site, known as the blanketing area. LPFM signals were shown
to

create only
 minimal interference within several hundred feet of the
 transmitters, with
 many receivers showing no interference even within that
 small
 radius.

Any interference within this small blanketing area is easily
 remedied by low
 cost filters, which all radio stations (including the
 potential LPFM
 stations) are already required to provide to listeners
 encountering
 interference problems in that zone.

A typical 50,000 watt full-power station is permitted a
 blanketing area of
 9150 feet around its transmitter. A 100 watt community
 station,
 by contrast,
 would be allowed a blanketing area of 401 feet.

"The National Association of Broadcasters has consistently
 used
 buzzwords
 like interference to scare the American public and hide
 their
 opposition to
 increasing the number of voices available over the airwaves"
 said Alan Korn,
 an attorney with the National Lawyers Guild Committee for
 Democratic
 Communications. "Our study shows that opening the airwaves to

the public
 with LPFM will cause far less interference than that caused
 by
 existing full
 power stations. These results confirm that the only
 interference
 the NAB is
 really concerned with is interference with their monopoly
 over
 the radio
 dial."

"It's good to be able to lay this interference issue to
 rest"
 says Jeremy
 Lansman, owner of KYES TV in Anchorage. "It is now more clear
 than ever
 that LPFM will create far less interference than many already
 licensed radio
 stations do. The listening public will only benefit from

the
many
innovative new stations that will emerge in this wave of
licensing. What the
NAB fears is economic competition from low power signals, not
the noise."

Full copies of the Broadcast Signal Lab study and its
executive
summary are

available on-line at

<https://gulfoss.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/ws.exe/prod/ecfs/comsrch.htm>,
Enter "99-25" in the field "docket #." Enter "National

Lawyers
Guild" in

the field "filed on behalf of." You can also receive the
study
by sending

an e-mail to: aakorn@igc.org. Copies of the executive summary

may also be

obtained by fax by leaving a message with the National

Lawyers
Guild

Committee on Democratic Communications at (415)
522-9814.

For additional information, please contact:

Jeremy Lansman, Radio Engineer, owner of broadcast station

KYES,

jeremydl@kyes.com; (907) 727-5959

Alan Korn Attorney, National Lawyers Guild Committee on
Democratic

Communications, aakorn@igc.org; (415) 362-5700

Pete triDish, Prometheus Radio Project,

petetridish@hotmail.com, (215) 476-2385

Cheryl A. Leanza, Deputy Director of Media Access
Project,

cleanza@essential.org, (202) 232-4300.

Date: 7/28/99

From: Mr. Joseph D'Alessandro

94 Angola Estates

Lewes, Delaware 19958

302-945-1554

Subject: Member # 8512 7568 1596 4858 ACLU

Subject: Member People For the American Way

2000 M Street, NW, Suite 400

Washington, DC 20036

Subject Member: REFORM PARTY

P.O. Box 9

Dallas, Texas 75221

Democratic Party:

Republican Party:

ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: Michael Owen Brucker <soitgoes@juno.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Sat, Jul 31, 1999 11:56 PM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Michael Owen Brucker (soitgoes@juno.com) on Saturday, July 31, 1999 at 22:56:27

comments: I fully agree to this beautiful idea and statement. Please include my full support to this nobile effort. Bring back radio to the people.

address: 3512 Tamarack Dr.

city: Boise

state: ID

zip: 83703

Submit: Send to FCC

RECEIVED

AUG 12 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.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that

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List ABCDE

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:

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.
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.
9. Stations should be locally programmed. However recorded materials such as music, poetry, documentaries, features etc. may be used. Sharing of program materials and resources among micro and community stations is strongly encouraged. No more than 20% of air time from off-site feeds or syndicated tapes.
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,

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
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
Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego
Juliet Schor--Harvard University
Mark Crispin Miller--New York University
Laura Flanders--national producer for Pacifica Radio
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

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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