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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](mailto: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.

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Signed,

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Diane Fleming, Philadelphia  
Peter Franck, San Francisco  
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Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press  
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## Additional Comments=

name=William King  
street=5245 Stoney Creek Way  
city=Elk Grove  
state=CA  
zip=95758  
=Send to FCC

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ORIGINAL

From: Arthur Lund <loki@aimcomm.com>  
To: ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
Date: Mon, Aug 2, 1999 5:18 PM  
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Arthur Lund (loki@aimcomm.com) on Monday, August 2, 1999 at 16:18:45

address: 5811 N. Cannon

city: Spokane

state: WA

zip: 99205

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

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

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

ORIGINAL

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**From:** Reese Nurmi <rnurmi@bresnanlink.net>  
**To:** ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
**Date:** Mon, Aug 2, 1999 5:35 PM  
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Reese Nurmi (rnurmi@bresnanlink.net)  
 on Monday, August 2, 1999 at 16:35:49

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

comments: I believe this to be a good idea

address: 323 E Superior st

city: Duluth

state: MN

zip: 55802

Submit: Send to FCC

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 Commissioner Gloria Tristani  
 Commissioner Michael Powell  
 Commissioner Susan Ness  
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cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore  
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Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
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ORIGINAL

99-25

From: Barry Sanders <bsanders@net66.com>  
To: ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
Date: Mon, Aug 2, 1999 11:24 AM  
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Barry Sanders (bsanders@net66.com) on Monday, August 2, 1999 at 10:24:53

comments: Microradio is a pure form of 1st amendment expression carried in a most public fashion through a publicly-owned medium. Making this unique form of expression available, and protecting its availability, is of great importance to America's free citizens. News of this reintroduction of microradio to the USA will certainly reach citizens in other countries; and will serve as a shining example of our government's willingness to further empower its citizens and continue practicing democracy for and by the People.

address: 706 W. Springfield

city: Champaign

state: IL

zip: 61820

Submit: Send to FCC

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman  
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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: Gary Powell <harvey@altern.org>  
 To: ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
 Date: Sun, Aug 1, 1999 11:05 PM  
 Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25



This email was submitted by Gary Powell (harvey@altern.org)  
 on Sunday, August 1, 1999 at 22:05:40

comments: I agree whole-heartedly that this should be put into action. Communication is a necessity within the community to spread culture and expose people to things to which they otherwise would not be exposed. The Internet has played a great part in this, but a multitude of mediums should be put into play for the spreading of different cultures. Airwaves should be yet another one of these mediums. Money should not dictate who will be the one to speak. Non-Commercial waves should be placed into action. Thank you...

address: 606 East Main Street

city: Crawfordsville

state: IN

zip: 47933

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

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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.

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](mailto:mec@tao.ca)) and Americans for Radio Diversity ([ard@radparker.com](mailto: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

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Gary Ruskin--Director, Commercial Alert  
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

**ORIGINAL**

**From:** Kenneth W. Hejduk <kdog7@gateway.net> **EX PARTE OR LATE FILED**  
**To:** ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
**Date:** Sun, Aug 1, 1999 11:09 PM  
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Kenneth W. Hejduk (kdog7@gateway.net)  
 on Sunday, August 1, 1999 at 22:09:31

---

comments: I strongly support LPFM and find it tragic that in a country built on a public foundation we should have trouble bringing public access to the airwaves. Shooting this effort down is a shot straight to the heart of this nation.

address: 724 W. 17th st. Apt. #5

city: Sioux Falls

state: SD

zip: 57104

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

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

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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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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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:** william king <wfking@gotnet.net>  
**To:** K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD),K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K5DOM....  
**Date:** Thu, Nov 25, 1999 12:01 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

MM Docket No. 99-25  
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AUG 12 1999

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 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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