

I live in an area that has been historically 'plagued' with pirate radio stations in the past. I wish to go on record stating that I have NEVER heard adjacent channel interference caused by any of them. I cannot say the same about some of the high-powered 'legitimate' and licenced stations.

The conglomerate corporate stations are fighting with stall and scare tactics to prohibit a new class of low power stations. They claim it is because smaller stations will create interference. Are they saying that the FCC is incompetent in the FCC criteria for approval of transmitters? And should the progress of commerce and diversification be curtailed because a few of the manufacturers of receivers do not produce radios with the integrity to discern channel separation?

The truth is NAB and NPR wish to stifle competition. The interference issue is just a smokescreen as to their real desires. When ownership rules changed dramatically to allow almost unfettered mergers and over-acquisitions in single markets, it was the NAB who supported that predation under the guise of free market rhetoric. Now the potential for true free markets is the very thing that the NAB membership wishes to protect their guild members from. Of course, NPR doesn't want to see any potential contributor support anything other than their enterprise.

Smaller commercial stations would not present a threat to the revenue of larger ones. The LPFM stations would offer small local businesses much needed affordable advertising. Where the threat would materialise is that it would require those large stations to cut into their profits by having to become more attuned to their audiences needs. Instead of the commonplace tired and banal programming, they would have to take the time (and money) to REALLY understand the desires of their listenership.

As the proceedings take place, it will become apparent if the lobbying of the powerful few, preclude the people's right to THEIR air waves. This very well may be the last opportunity to give small business a chance to compete against the here-to-fore government sanctioned monopolies.

A direct response to KJZZ and Sun Systems comments:

Those associated with KJZZ and Sun Systems are generalizing when they lump the comments of a few as being the feelings of most of us who are seeking LPFM allotments.

I do respect the visually disabled community and intend to offer reading services to those in this venue. That is, if I can secure bandwidth in the commercial frequencies.

By KJZZ and Sun Systems aligning themselves with the NAB, it would be interesting to report just how many NAB commercial stations offer the hearing impaired with this much needed service. And if they do, how much do they charge.

'Sleeping with the devil has it's price.'