MM 99-25

ORIGINAL

1441 Lyon
San Francisco, CA 94115

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

July 24, 1999

RECEIVED
SEP 20 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CANCELLED
THIS DATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

William Kennard,
Chair,
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Kennard:

I am excited to hear that the FCC is reconsidering its stand on low power FM radio ("micro radio").

Media conglomeration is nothing new to communication in the United States. Today, multinational corporations own an increasing amount of media outlets around the nation and are moving the potential for democratic communication further and further away with their focus on profit motives. Commercial radio targets listeners as consumers. Citizens of the United States are not mere consumers, but individuals that need to be active in their communities. Civic activity requires access to a free flow of information that pertains to the community which commercial radio can not and will not provide.

To fulfill the public interest and serve the needs of citizens who want to engage in public discourse and/or the arts and culture that is marginalized by the commercial format and interests of mainstream media, we need an alternative radio system to the one we have now. We need a system of grassroots radio: community-based, local, low power fm radio stations, controlled and operated by the people in the communities they serve. I strongly urge the Commission to consider the option of a completely non-commercial, locally-owned and locally-programmed micro radio service.

I also urge you to design a plan for allocating spectrum space to communities that is simple, straightforward, and easy for community groups, artists, unions, and others to use. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Perrine

Rebecca Perrine

No. of Copies rec'd 0+1
List ABCDE