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Ms. Peggy Koteen
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San Luis Obi, CA 93401

To: William Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

March 8, 99

Ref: Low Power FM Radio (100 Watts or less)

Dear Chairman Kennard:

we like to thank you for taking comments in this very important matter. There is a great need for the legal establishment of FCC-regulated low power FM radio. In our opinion, far too many of the publicly owned airwaves have already been turned over to far too few giant corporations. As a result the nation's mass media is to an extraordinary degree controlled by for-profit, commercial interests, which drown out nearly all other interests or alternative viewpoints. In particular, local nonprofit voices have an increasingly difficult time to get heard. It is our understanding, that the FCC's original mission was the "regulation of the public airwaves in the broadest public interest". We believe that the FCC must return to it's mission by providing affordable permits to responsible low power FM stations like " Excellent Radio" in Grover Beach, California. This station has provided it's community first rate programming, incl. broadcast of City council meetings and community forums, which are now an indispensable part of the social life in the San Luis Obispo South-County. Many local views and ideas would have simply not been voiced otherwise. Unfortunately, the NPR-radio stations, while trying to do their best, have also become more and more under commercial influence. There are also not enough of them to serve all local needs of the immediate communities. We urge you to make part of OUR airwaves available for nonprofit, non-commercial low power FM stations. Thank you once again for taking the lead on this crucial issue and for your interest in our comments.

Sincerely

Peggy Koteen

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