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MM 99-25

At a Regular Meeting of the Royal Oak City Commission held on Monday, July 19, 1999, in City Hall, 211 Williams Street, the following Resolution was adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED the City of Royal Oak urges the Federal Communications Commission to restore approval for low power FM radio broadcasting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution should be sent to the Federal Communications Commission.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Royal Oak City Commission at a meeting held on July 19, 1999.

Mary C. Hanerty

City Clerk

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OCT 25 1999

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A PENDING DISASTER FOR MOST MARYLAND SMALL TOWN RADIO STATIONS

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

There will be a minimal effect on the many proposed low power stations for Baltimore. Because most of Maryland's 10,000 watt stations are located in Baltimore, the 23 proposed low power stations added to this city probably won't degrade radio service appreciably as a 50,000 watt station is difficult to bring to its knees.

The radio service in Maryland's smaller areas are already lower power. Additional proposed lower power FM stations dropped into these areas could be 3 or 4 times fold.

With this unseemly amount of radio stations in one small area, the level of all the established stations will be brought down to a CB or amateur-type operation as all the new stations will be. No existing station can survive the extraordinary increased radio advertising competition without making cost cutting moves to stay afloat.

The radio listener will not only have increased frequency interference but a degradation in programming.

IF THERE ARE TO BE ADDITIONAL LOWER POWER (CB TYPE) FM STATIONS FOR DIVERSE PROGRAMMING, THEY SHOULD BE NON-COMMERCIAL SO THAT THE ESTABLISHED STATIONS CAN SURVIVE.

Manager's Business Report ♦ March 1999

News in Review

Low power gets poor reception on the Hill; FCC Chair undeterred

House Commerce Committee Chair Rep. Bill Tauzin (R-LA) has joined the growing chorus of opposition to the creation of thousands of low-power FMs, which FCC Chair Bill Kennard (D) says will open up the market to diverse voices.

Tauzin says microradio will reduce the advertising revenue of existing stations, create severe interference and called the microradio proposal another example of the FCC being "an agency out of control that demands congressional action to straighten out."

"I'm sure the Chairman Tauzin does not want to limit Americans' choices to whom or what they can hear on the radio. I hope that when he speaks with the church and community leaders who I have spoken with, he will see the benefits of low power," Kennard said in a statement in response to Tauzin's remarks.

Kennard takes to the airwaves

Kennard visited an actual low-power FM station, the University of Maryland's 10-watt WMUC-FM College Park, MD, to boost the LPFM proposal. The broadcast was also carried live on the station's Internet site.

"I'm very disappointed when I look at the radio marketplace today and see so much consolidation—many licenses concentrated in fewer and fewer hands," Kennard said in a roundtable discussion with LPFM advocates. Since deregulation in 1996, Kennard said there are 1,000 fewer radio owners today. "And we know that most of those radio owners who are no longer in the marketplace were the

smaller companies that had to sell out—they were bought out by the larger conglomerates. There is a need on the radio band for local voices—more local voices. What low-power FM and microradio can do is give a voice to people who want to use the airwaves to speak to their communities in new ways. I'm hoping that we will have a low-power FM service in this country that will bring a whole class of new voices—people who are not using radio for mass demographics, for mass formatting, but who want to use the radio...to serve local community niches."

Although Kennard was preaching to the choir, he did get one question about concerns that LPFM might increase interference in the FM band. "We are not going to do anything to degrade the FM band. My job as Chairman of the FCC is to protect the radio spectrum from harmful interference."

Small market owners see threat

The FCC's proposed LPFM service will allow possibly thousands of new FM stations with 10-watts to 1kw power. What's becoming apparent, though, is that few of the microradio stations can be shoe-horned into major markets (even with third- and maybe second-adjacent channel protection lifted). Rather, the smaller the market, the more LPFMs can and will be inserted.

Docket 80-90 also attempted to promote entrepreneurship and minority ownership, authorizing 2,500-3,000 new FMs that ended up hurting many medium- and small-market broadcasters, recalled Cary Simpson, President Allegheny Mountain Net-

work and Chairman, RAB's Small Market Advisory Committee. "Louisville, KY and Atlantic City, NJ were the only communities of any size that got Docket 80-90 stations. I think what [LPFM] would amount to would be the same thing that would happen anytime competition comes in. This could adversely affect what, presumably, has been an important service—the hometown radio station," said Simpson.

Carl Marcocci, Chairman, Music of Your Life Network and acting President, American Association of Independent Radio Stations (AAIRS) points to pirates in his market, who have already hurt independent broadcasters, as an example of what LPFM broadcasters may do. "These pirates had frequencies [and power] that essentially would be comparable to what the low-powered FM would be."

With current broadcasters barred from LPFM, Marcocci emphasized that it's the current independent and minority broadcasters who will feel the pinch, not the big group owners whose rates are untouchable for the advertisers LPFMs will target.

After years of campaigning for FM translators for AM daytimers, members of the American Community AM Broadcasters Association (ACAMBA) find themselves shut out of LPFM, with the prospect of many new competitors.

"They're going to offer amnesty to the pirates who agreed to shut down. Now that's a slap in the face to every broadcaster that has gone through the time, trouble, effort and expense of complying with all the rules and regulations that we have to comply with," said Bryan Smeathers, President, ACAMBA and WMTA, Atlantic City, KY.

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The 12 myths of low-power FM

Low-power FM seems to have taken on a life of its own. Although it is now clear that creation of new, low-power classes of FM stations won't achieve the objectives that led FCC Chair Bill Kennard (D) to embrace the idea, the majority of commissioners are racing head-long to enact the new service.

Why? Other than scoring political points with the White House, there doesn't seem to be any reason for the LPFM frenzy.

RBR's editors have investigated each of the arguments put forth by proponents of LPFM. In each and every case, the claim is either wrong or simply a bad idea. Here, then, we expose and refute the 12 myths of LPFM.

1 LPFM will provide opportunities for women and minorities to become radio station owners.

Recent court decisions have made it impossible for the FCC to set aside licenses for women or minorities. Also, under current law, if LPFM is made a commercial radio service, the FCC will have to auction the licenses. Even with existing broadcast owners barred from bidding (a guaranteed lawsuit, by the way), the top bidders for the most desirable licenses are likely to be experienced

broadcasters who don't happen to be owners, with backing from well-heeled local investors. Those winning bidders could be females or minorities, but they could just as easily be white males.

Meanwhile, the licenses which could be had cheaply at auction are likely to prove a financial disaster for their "winning" bidders. Enthusiastic entrepreneurs with little cash, but lots of ambition, will find that the only one making any money from their LPFM venture is a bankruptcy attorney.

2 Creation of a new service by the FCC should not be taken as proof of financial viability, Chair Bill Kennard recently told RBR, but rather an opportunity for entrepreneurs to make their own determination as to whether it is a viable business.

"Let the buyer beware" may be appropriate for the cut-throat world of Wall Street, but don't citizens deserve better from their government? In fact, many people (however wrongly) view an FCC spectrum license as a government endorsement. Those of us with knowledge of FCC-regulated industries know the sad recent history—how the Commission's licensing of LPTV and wireless cable, along with early spectrum auctions for wireless data and PCS, served primarily to help fill bankruptcy court dockets in a time of economic prosperity.

3 Minorities and women have been frozen out of consolidation because Wall Street won't fund companies whose CEOs aren't white males.

Tell that to Cathy Hughes, Alfred Liggins, Raul Alarcon, Ross Love, Amador Bustos and Alfredo Alonso. Good operators are good operators. Wall Street loves good operators—entrepreneurs who can make 2+2 equal 5 and deliver on an aggressive business plan.

4 Consolidation has decreased program diversity.

This is the big lie that's been told over and over—and is regularly repeated as gospel in major newspaper articles extolling the virtues of "pirate radio" operators. In fact, consolidation has greatly increased program diversity. No longer is each market overrun with FMs butting heads to dominate

AC, Country or Rock. Instead, superduopoly owners have broadened their scope to include such new offerings as Smooth Jazz, Urban AC, Hot Talk, AAA and even Christian Country. Meanwhile, the growth in Spanish formats has been phenomenal, with fast-growing Hispanic groups snapping up stations to launch Tejano, Tropical, Spanish Talk and other new formats.

Commercial radio stations play only popular music.

5 OK, that one's not a myth. What is society supposed to gain from having new stations which will play unpopular music? Why are we expected to give a spot on the dial to every disenfranchised 22-year-old male (let's face it, there aren't very many female pirates) who wants to play the bands which he and his two closest friends think are great, but which everyone else thinks sound like sick cats running over hot coals?

6 LPFM won't increase interference in the FM band.

Unless the FCC has somehow been given authority to amend the laws of physics, eliminating third-adjacent channel (and perhaps second-adjacent as well) protection will, by definition, increase interference. To pretend otherwise is a bald-faced lie.

7 LPFM won't inhibit the implementation of DAB.

Maybe true, maybe not. The fact is, there is no FCC standard yet for IBOC DAB, so it is impossible to say whether or not the addition of thousands of LPFMs will make it more difficult to begin the conversion of US radio stations from analog to digital. For sure, though, struggling LPFM operators will complain loudly if they find that their nearly-new analog transmitters are obsolete and have to be replaced with digital equipment just a few years after going on the air.

8 Commercial LPFM won't hurt established broadcasters.

CBS, ABC, Clear Channel and other big companies probably don't have much to fear, but neighborhood stations selling "dollar-a-holler" spots could very well take away enough business.

RBR presents The Beltway Squares Game



Bill Kennard



Michael Powell

Will the pirates
take Commissioner
Susan Ness
to win?



Susan Ness

Can the radio
industry block by
persuading Ness
that LPFM will
destroy FM?



H. Furchgott-Roth

This game appears to
be down to the final
square already, with
Ness rather than
Whoopi Goldberg
in the center square



Gloria Tristani

business to drive marginally profitable standalones into red ink. Those vulnerable medium and large market stations, by the way, are likely to be locally and/or minority owned.

In small markets, though, the threat is much greater. A county with only a couple of commercial stations could be inundated with four, six, even a dozen 1kw, 100-watt and 10-watt stations. Most would never come close to breaking even financially, even with mostly volunteer staffs, but would take away enough business from the existing stations to force them to abandon local news and programming to stay in business. Weekly rural newspapers would likely also be impacted and perhaps forced out of business.

9 *Non-commercial LPFM stations will be more likely than existing broadcasters to target their programming to minorities and the poor, downtrodden sectors of society.*

Why, then, do most existing non-commercial stations aim their programming at a predominantly white, high-income, highly-educated audience?

10 *Major ethnic groups in large cities have no voice on the airwaves.*

Just what major ethnic groups exist which are large enough to support an LPFM (either via advertising or donations), yet

have no current radio service? Every major city we know of has at least one block-programmed station (some cities have several) which sells time to local entrepreneurs who produce very local programming in their native language for their own ethnic community. The largest ethnic groups already have full-time stations broadcasting in their language, such as the Korean and Spanish stations in RBR's home market, Washington, DC (there even used to be a full-time Arabic station).

Many ethnic groups are too scattered over a metro to be covered by a single LPFM, so they could face the prospect of trading block-programming which is broadcast to their entire community a few hours each week for full-time broadcasting to only a portion of their community.

Suppose, for the sake of argument, that many of the most desirable LPFM licenses in major markets do end up in the hands of minority entrepreneurs. Their business plan won't be to take ad revenues away from CBS and ABC, but rather from existing broadcasters who are already serving their community. How many of DC's three Spanish AMs (plus a 4th simulcast) could survive competition from a couple of well-placed 1kw FMs? We're all for competition, but what social agenda is served by having one

minority entrepreneur put another out of business?

11 *The FCC can and will enforce its rules as strictly for LPFM as for full-power broadcasters.*

Has Bill Kennard perfected cloning? Where will he get the manpower to deal with a deluge of new stations that will make Docket 80-90 seem like a garden party, by comparison? The pressure from Capitol Hill in recent years has been to reduce the FCC staff, not expand it.

12 *LPFM will do away with the pirate problem.*

Quite the contrary, we expect to see pirates emboldened by the proliferation of new LPFM stations. They'll figure the FCC is going to be too busy dealing with all of the new stations to even notice an unlicensed station thrown into the mix—and they'll probably be right.

Pirates are, by definition, scofflaws, so many won't even bother to apply for a real LPFM license, which would require them to operate on a specific frequency at a specific power and comply with the FCC's rules. Those who do apply, but don't win a license, may well go back to their pirate ways.

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An Obituary from the Future



OBITUARIES

William Kennard, The Man who Killed Radio

William Kennard was a kind, vibrant, bright and capable FCC commissioner whose only goal was to help minorities. Yet today, his name is spoken as a curse among them, for it was William Kennard who lured thousands of them into a building he had unwittingly set on fire.

FCC Chairman William Kennard set the building on fire when he led the charge to allot Radio spectrums for thousands of low-power "micro-radio stations" across

America. Recalling his own college Radio experience, Kennard believed that by allotting spectrums, minorities would be free to invest in their own low-power Radio stations, thereby creating thousands of new jobs within America's minority communities.

For a while, it seemed as though Kennard's dream might become reality. It was only after thousands of optimistic minority entrepreneurs had invested in these unregulated "micro-signals" that they began overlapping

one another and interfering with the traditional established signals that had previously been the backbone of broadcasting.

Yes, there once was a day when the average Radio signal could be heard across an entire city, allowing motorists to listen to the station of their choice as they drove from place to place. Radio died at the hand of a kind man, a good man, a man who wanted only to help. But that doesn't make it any less dead.



Radio is asleep while the most dangerous ruling in its history is about to be adopted by the FCC, with all four commissioners and its chairman in complete agreement. If broadcasters don't act quickly, the commission will soon vote to allow unlimited numbers of "neighborhood" Radio stations across every city in America to begin broadcasting with a one- to five-mile signal. Radio, as we know it, will become unlistenable in your town.

Micro-radio will create havoc and interference on existing local Radio frequencies in every American community, disrupting the community service, news, information and entertainment programming upon which millions of consumers depend. Like Commissioner Kennard, I would like to see increased minority ownership in Radio, but the creation of unlimited numbers of micro-stations is definitely not the answer.



Your station **MUST** encourage listeners to send letters to Congress and the White House — which, by the way, supports Kennard — and to each FCC commissioner, stating it will not tolerate the destruction of its Radio service by micro-radio.

You must speak to your congressional representative about how dangerous and damaging this well-intentioned ruling would be. Your signal, your business and your future depend on your ability to get very angry before it is too late — before Bill Kennard is known for being the man who killed Radio. ☐

Eric

B. Eric Rhoads, Publisher

To reach me, write: RADIO INK, B. Eric Rhoads, Publisher, 224 DeLeon Street, Suite 704, West Palm Beach, FL 33411 Phone: 561-655-8778 • Fax: 561-655-4938 E-mail: EdRhoads@radioink.com

MM 99-25

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Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
455 Twelfth Street
Washington, DC 20554
5/18/99
FCC docket # MM99-25

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

Dear members of the Federal Communications Commission:

I wish that you would consider voting in favor of Low Power FM licensing. The reason I am in favor of such licensing is because I live 30 miles West of downtown St Louis in a community of 55,000+ and we have no local radio station geared to the community.

I worked at a daytime station in St Louis and it was purchased by a group that owned 22 other stations or so and within 6 months, all of the time was brokered out. They are now doing everything from Hard Rock to Spanish. I understand that it's their right to do what ever but this stations history has always been Big Band and Nostalgia. The other Nostalgia AM cant be heard in St Peters after sundown. On the FM side the only thing close to that is a Light Rock format.

I have talked to many people in this community about a MOR radio station geared to St Peters, St. Charles and O'Fallon, MO and everyone seems to be in favor or at least feels we should have the right to have a station with those objectives. If I could I would like to see our community have a 1,000 Watt station. That would be large enough to serve the community yet small enough not to create a problem for High Power stations.

In the last two years stations in this area have changed ownership almost on a monthly basis, selling in the millions of dollars to large groups such as Sinclair and Jacor. I don't deny these companies that right, but the little guy like me who loves radio more than profit makes the affordability and possibility of owning a large station, unlikely.

By approving the licensing Low Power stations it helps to level the playing field to some degree. I also feel that ownership should be limited to one station, one owner. That would prevent the same thing happening to Low Power that has happened to the High Power station.

In summary your favorable vote for licensing Low Power would give a little guy an opportunity to serve the community and still play his Frank Sinatra and Henry Mancini records.

Thank you

William A Owens

William A Owens
418 Sutters Mill Rd.
St Peters, MO. 63376
314-926-3985

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OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
200 N.E. 21st Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3204

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	
)	
Creation of a Low Power)	MM Docket No. 99-25
Radio Service)	FCC 99-6

COMMENTS OF THE
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By
Mike Woods, Communications Branch

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May 28, 1999

Introduction

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation currently owns two Traveler Information Stations (TIS, under FCC Rules, Part 90.242), these units have been used statewide to disseminate information regarding alternate routes during construction projects and special events. They were utilized in Oklahoma City during the aftermath of the Alfred P. Murrah building bombing to provide entrance and exit ramp status in the downtown area. The deployment of these units has improved our ability to disseminate information to the public traveling through these areas.

Comments and Discussion

We would like to register our support for your proposal (FCC 99-6) to bring new licensing structure and frequency uses for the FM broadcast band (88-108 MHz). In particular, our support is for the 100 watt and _micropower_ (up to 10 watt) licensing for the use of activities similar to the TIS use on the 530-1700 kHz AM broadcast band. We believe this use of the new low power radio service you propose will offer superior and more dependable communication between the travel corridor user and the provider that will serve in addition to those offered by the currently available channels on the AM broadcast band.

In our support for this proposed set of rules changes, we do not support micropower service without licensing. This could create enforcement problems and increase the difficulty in resolving

interference complaints thus compromising the integrity of this program. We support your continued reservation on the 88-92 MHz portion of the band that force educational or noncommercial use of these channels. However, we support the low power channel use for TIS purposes anywhere in the entire 88-108 MHz band. [Reference paragraphs 6 and 7 of your summary in the Federal Register, Vol. 64, No. 30]

We agree with your proposal that these stations not be subject to certain technical rules currently applied to other classes of radio service in regard to third and second adjacent channel interference. [Reference paragraph 1 of your summary]

We agree and support your proposal not to authorize similar low power stations in the AM broadcast band. We agree that to do so would increase the already high interference potential and congestion in that frequency band. [Reference paragraph 5 of your summary]

We would like to comment on our wish to pursue TIS operation as a government entity, serving under the current restrictions of your rules, Part 90.243, in this new service, and, therefore, would like to comment positively on such operation. [Reference paragraph 7 of your summary]

We would like to comment on your technical proposals concerning LP100 stations selecting their frequencies. We recommend the prospective licensees be required to do a study before choosing a channel, and are required to follow your recommendations that 10 percent or less of their 60 dBu would be predicted to receive interference. [Reference paragraph 16 of your summary]

We comment positively on prohibition of translating or boosting of LP100 station signals, EXCEPT

WHERE THEY ARE USED IN AN AREA-WIDE TIS SERVICE BY GOVERNMENT ENTITIES.

A large number of channels could be consumed in a large urban area for TIS operations without allowing simultaneous, phase-locked transmissions for reporting road conditions, closings and other safety related broadcasts. [Reference paragraph 17 of your summary]

We recommend adopting the micropower radio class of station. We recommend protection of the TIS operation stations in this classification, whether or not you require protection of other stations. [Reference paragraph 20 of your summary]

We recommend modulation monitors be optional on the LPFM stations and the transmitters be certified with built-in modulation limits to avoid interference to other stations.

We request for the TIS station use by government entities mentioned above, the removal of prohibition again an entity owning more than one station in the same community. [Reference paragraph 32 of your summary]

We recommend the micropower station licensees be exempted from the main studio file rule, the public file rule and the periodic ownership reporting requirements. [Reference paragraph 43 of your summary]

We recommend you treat LPFM stations like full power stations where protection against exposure to radio frequency radiation is concerned. This should also extend to micropower stations. The simple calculations concerned, coupled with simpler antennas should allow standard calculations to be performed and warning signs posted if required. [Reference paragraph 44 of your summary]

We agree with your proposed construction permit periods mentioned in paragraph 46 of your summary.

We request renewal ability be granted TIS governmental entity station operators in the LP100 and micropower classes of LPFM station. The inherent service to the public of such stations warrants their renewal to serve the community at large. [Reference paragraph 48 of your summary]

We recommend micropower and LP100 stations be relieved of any requirement to participate in the Emergency Alert System operations. We agree with your comments that these stations will not have the coverage area, audience or finances to comply with this operation. Also, they will likely not be the station serving the whole community of listeners, thus may be excused by other, more powerful stations taking on the role of emergency alerting in the community. [Reference paragraph 49 of your summary]

We recommend assigning LPFM stations call sign that identify them as being LPFM class transmitters. We feel knowing the station call sign will always help identify malfunctioning or interfering stations, thus easing FCC efforts in controlling spurious transmitter behavior. [Reference paragraph 50 of your summary]

We feel that LPFM stations should be made available for inspection, similar to the requirements for full-power stations. We also feel it is reasonable for the Commission to require stations in LPFM class operation to immediately cease operations if these stations cause interference and the operator is notified of the problem.

We agree that, due to the likely number of applicants, the Commission allow and require electronic filing of LPFM station license applications. We comment that whatever your system of applications, the first flood of applicants could overload the application system when the LPFM licensing doors are opened. We consider that for applicants like ourselves, who have a whole state to serve, that a very short filing window would be a hardship and handicap to achieving our operations goals for TIS applications. [Reference paragraph 55 of your summary]

We recommend that the Commission license these devices without auction under the legislative intent. We believe auctioning these low-cost, local, noncommercial station licenses would be contrary to your intent in creating the service.

Conclusion

The State of Oklahoma Department of Transportation supports the LPFM licensing of LP100 and micropower stations, especially when used by government entities as TIS transmitters. We support interconnected TIS operations in areas with freeways and turnpikes to facilitate communications to the traveling public over the served areas, notifying the public of road construction and repair as well as some weather-related topics.

MM 99-25



New Jersey Turnpike Authority

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING P.O. BOX 1121 NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY 08903
(908) 247-0900

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EDWARD GROSS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

September 15, 1999

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Allocations Branch
Washington, D.C. 20554

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OCT 25 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

To: The Commission

In the matter of Creation of a Low Power Radio Service, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Low Power Radio NPRM), MM Docket No. 99-25, RM-9208, RM-9242.

The New Jersey Turnpike Authority hereby submits its comments in the above captioned proceeding in response to the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking outlining the establishment of a low power FM radio service. As set below, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority supports creation of low power FM service for non-commercial entities, particularly public service entities that are fulfilling critical public safety functions.

The New Jersey Turnpike Authority operates the New Jersey Turnpike, a limited access toll superhighway stretching 148 miles through New Jersey from the Delaware Memorial Bridge to the George Washington Bridge including extensions. The Turnpike Authority presently owns and operates nine permanent Highway Advisory Radio stations and two portable Highway Advisory Radio trailers. These stations currently operate on 1610 KHz, 590 KHz and 530 KHz on the AM band. The Highway Advisory Radios are updated on the average 30 times per day for traffic incidents, congestion, construction, and intense weather conditions for both the Turnpike and adjoining facilities. As an active member of the I-95 Corridor Coalition, the Authority's radio systems are activated as part of the cooperative effort between agencies. When not in use for emergency broadcasts, these stations regularly broadcast safety tips, service area location, important messages from the New Jersey State Police regarding New Jersey Laws, and information on points of interest.

In response to the NPRM noted above, the Authority offers the following comments on this Rulemaking. The Authority believes low power FM stations should be limited to noncommercial operations providing vital public services. These agencies are

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NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE AUTHORITY

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Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554 (con't)

presently limited to the AM band which is plagued with poor reception, interference and band overcrowding. For instance, the Turnpike Authority must utilize three different AM stations to cover the entire length of the Turnpike due to band overcrowding. Access to low power FM services by transportation and public safety agencies like the Turnpike Authority would ensure public service messages, travelers' advisories and critical public safety messages could reach the motorists expeditiously thereby improving the safety and efficiency of the nation's roadways.

In summary, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority favors the option of low powered FM access for Traveler's Information stations, that access to these stations be limited to non-profit agencies and the licenses be granted to Public Entities to perform public safety functions. If you have any further questions, regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Robert F. Dale
Director of Operations
New Jersey Turnpike Authority

RFD/DCC

cc: Edward Gross

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123 Freeman St. #1A
Brookline, MA 02446-3535
May 27, 1999

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Senator Edward Kennedy
315 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

I am in favor of non-commercial micropowered radio broadcasting. They represent the local community, and they help keep radio competitive with the Internet.

Current micro-broadcasters who operate with proper licensing should not be prosecuted and should not be restricted from getting any future micro-licenses.

The American public deserves to have diverse, non-centralized community-based broadcasting.

Sincerely,



Lisa Tucker-Kellogg

cc: William Kennard, Susan Ness, Harold Furchgott-Roth,
Michael Powell, and Gloria Tristani
Federal Communications Commission
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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sydney R. Sonneborn
20 North Sewell Ave.
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ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

18 June, 1999

Dear Sir/ Madam:

As a concerned citizen, living in a very rural area of Eastern Montana, I would like to express my feelings about the proposed Low Power FM radio stations. As it now is proposed, with the new LPFM stations having the ability to apply for frequencies already existing in a community and knocking that station off the air, would be disastrous to Public Radio. Especially since existing Public Radio stations can not apply for these proposed new class low power stations. I can write you a scenario of what will evolve in the sparsely populated upper mid-west.

The Right Wing Religious groups could form broadcast organizations that could own up to ten of these low power stations. These groups could be affiliated with say, the Christian Coalition, which could feed these stations via satellite. All the while, this group could be eliminating the low-power translators that now feed Public Radio signals into rural communities. I really don't think this proposal will add to diversity of ownership or programming opportunities in rural areas. Please re-think the Low Power FM Radio Proposal.

Sincerely,


Sydney R. Sonneborn

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Dimitris Rentzios
1834 Colorado Blvd.
Denver, CO 80220

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you regarding the Free Airwaves campaign to help support low power radio stations. The FCC is currently reviewing the possibility of adding a new class of low powered radio stations. The purpose of these radio stations is to create a community of local radio stations. A few corporations with strong lobbying power are increasingly monopolizing today's radio stations. The technology has improved so that local low powered radio stations can be placed on the radio band without interfering with other stations. The following are just some of the possibilities that can be achieved by local radio stations:

- Create easy access for community participation and the proliferation of local voice
- Broaden arena of political, social, and entertainment programming
- Target specific neighborhood events and activities
- Address unmet needs for community oriented radio broadcasting
- Provide a forum of diverse voices and opinions
- Provided low cost advertising opportunities for local small businesses
- Create new broadcast ownership opportunities
- Address issues and views significant to the well-being of the community

I appreciate the time you take in reading this letter and I sincerely encourage you to help in any way you can. This is an important issue that needs your support.

Thank you,



Dimitris Rentzios

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OCT 25 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

March 31, 1999

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

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AUDIO RECORDS
DIVISION

Dear FCC,

As President and General Manager of WKEY-AM and WIQO-FM in Covington, Virginia, I have serious concerns about the proposed Low Power FM Radio service. WKEY-AM is a 1,000 watt station at 1340 mhz, and WIQO-FM is a 6,000 watt station, both serving a very rural area. The entire population of our county is approximately 23,000 people.

Frankly, WKEY-AM continues to operate only because we utilize advertising revenues generated by WIQO-FM. Due to the fact that we continue to provide two full-service radio stations in this market, we find few profitable months. However, we take our commitment to the community very seriously, and continue to offer a full-time local news department, and a full-time community service department.

The community service department is a good example of the work we do for this community. In 1998, we aired local public service announcements which were valued at well over \$200,000 based on our average rate. Every single announcement was locally produced, and the vast majority were voiced by people outside of our station who live in this community. In addition, we conducted 21 free remote broadcasts for community-related causes.

In 1998, our local news department produced 87 hours of local news, specifically aimed at this community. In addition, we carry hourly reports from ABC News.

These departments would be the very first ones we would have to trim should we face economic difficulty. We live in an area with a quickly shrinking population, and discontinuing these departments would save me around 20-percent of our current operating costs. My profit margins are so small, that this would be an action we would be forced to take if our business drops by only 11-percent.

In addition, I have another problem with the proposals. I bought this company less than two years ago. The price was based on billings, and the security that the stations were worth the price because there are no other available frequencies in this area. Had I known other frequencies would become available, I absolutely would never have put my family's future at risk with a 15-year mortgage that could financially ruin me. Adding a

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frequency to this market will simply lessen the service we can provide, and there simply isn't enough additional advertising revenue in a town of 6,300 people to allow a LPFM station to pay for providing the replacing the services we would have to abandon.

Please re-consider this proposal. I would invite someone from you office to come and spend some time with me and just see how tough it is for small stations in a climate filled with huge companies which own hundreds of radio stations. We're barely surviving now, yet we're providing far more community service than the big companies. I fail to see how a proposal designed to put us under will help the community in any way.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denny Tincher", written in a cursive style.

Denny Tincher
President
WKEY, Inc.

OCT 25 1999

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Petition in Support of Micro-powered Radio

COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Whereas the cost of licensing fees for a single radio station are in excess of \$60,000 prohibiting ownership and broadcast for groups without such resources;

Whereas we believe such restrictions are unnecessary and abrogate our First Amendment right to freedom of speech;

Whereas the diversity in radio ownership and content has been drastically reduced; today three multi-billion dollar corporations control one-third of the entire radio industry- a direct result of the Telecommunications act of 1996;

We, the undersigned, do hereby register our support for the legalization of micro-powered radio in an endeavor to provide community-based, diverse, low-power broadcasting for the citizens of Florida.

Name	Address	Phone/e-mail
Carol Henricks	2777 SW Archer Rd Apt R-213	376-0253
Wardell Richmond	Campus	
Susan Johnson	2360 SW Archer Rd #1012	376-6869
Stacy Daniels	1030 NW 55th St	377-3495
Danielle Redden	4000 SW 37th Blvd #111	381-9037
Elizabeth Okuniewicz	3155 3rd St	336-5356
Frank Long	506 Flg Wickeder In	288-924-7202
nick= Michael Drake	518 NW 28th Ave	376-0318
Ralph Ariza	1016 SW 8 Ave 32601	335-0614
Robert Lassiter	606 NE 8th Ave 32601	379-1465
Colleen Flannery	920 SW 6th St 32601	337-9945
William	2777 SW Archer Rd Apt R-213	376-0253
Jerry Williamson	1110 NW 36 Road Gatorville	371-8636
Flannery Curran	803 NW 27th St Gville 32603	381-9983
Robert Golden	419 NW 14th St Gville FL 32603	335-3768
Erwiden Alin	911 NW 22nd Ave, Arachua	462-0461
Kimberly A Davis	28 East Hall #226	846-8763
Samantha Stone	420 SW Dixie Ave #19	336-8122
Alexander Sanchez	111 NW 15 Terrace #C 35	
Stephanie Weinstein	302 NE 6th St Gville	378-9505
Robert Muna	1430 NW 5th Ave Apt #1	381-9472
Chris Cain	112 NW 51st St	336-4594
Kyle Arseny	511 NW 15th St	821-2878
Middleton	36 Murphree Rd #455	196-8583
Michelle	2777 SW Archer	376-9119
Margaret Heath	2016 NW 17 Lane Gville, FL 32605	352-381-8781

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Name (individual or organization)	Address	Phone/email
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JADE WASHBURN	4522 NW 156th Ave. Gville. FL.	462-4064 - Hartlan@ufl.edu
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Rodger Feedricks	P.O. Box 12066 Gainesville FL 32604-0066	
SLA & FRIP	3200 SW 27th St Gainesville FL 32608	374-8034
Com Helms	104 Apt 10 104B Gainesville FL 32612	846-4346
COURTNEY BOTTHGILD	312 NW 10th St. G'VILLE FL 32601	867-8186

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Name (individual or organization)	Address	Phone/email
Carolyn Julier	914 SW 5th Ave Gainesville FL 32601	cjulier@ufl.com
Isaac Richochi	3007 AVE 2919 S.W. 34 Ave	
Andrew Stanton	914 SW 39th Ave Gville 381 8918	
Jan Schletky	717 NE 3rd Ave Gville FL 32601	
Ryan Braulford	309 SW 16 Ave Gville FL 32601	Big Sam@ufl
Annalee McDonald	913 NW 33rd Ave Gainesville FL 32601	Beebe@ufl.edu
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Marcelle Cohen	3125 SW 2nd Ave Apt 162 Gville FL 32607	375-6568 ^{Miscelle@} cif1.edu
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Elizabeth Kumbharra	3837 S.W. 34th St 32608	277-3727
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F. Messinger	2180 College Avenue	546-654-4543
MBARTZ	102 NW 15th St #4 32603	376-2904
C. Warwell	3301 SW 13th Q 254	381-1879
B. Johnson	222 NW 4th Ave	378-5735
Edwin Lee Rogers	2701 SW 13th St G-20	371-9571
NICOLETTE FERTAKIS	112 SW 8th St	379-7526
YING TANG	984 S.W. 16TH AVE.	376-9630
Rima Ash	1012 NW 5th St	379-1664

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Name (individual or organization)	Address	Phone/email
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Robert Karp	1101 NW 43 AVE GN	377-1483
Marcy Willett	1716 SW Williston Rd. Gville 32609	377-3268 378-6763
JAMEN WEARE	220A SE 4th Ave	338 8863
Kelly Horton	PO BOX 14 WALDO FL	32694 468 3746
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Name (individual or organization)	Address	Phone/email
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Dan Langlois	266 OLEAN ST. WORCESTER MA 01602	(508) 752-1952
Jim Nahmann	P.O. Box 320 Gainesville FL	904) 352-1111
<hr/>		
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Andy Nowalk	1015 NW 3rd Ave Apt B Gville 32601	-
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Kathie Cuykendall	1112 NW 10th Ave Gainesville FL 32601	
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