

I am totally supportive of the 'low power' licensing proposal presented in this NPRM, and I would strongly urge the Commission to give at least tentative approval to such.

In my opinion, the proliferation of low/micropower stations would be desirable. Having held a radiotelephone license since 1976, and having experience in both commercial and non-commercial stations, I feel that all 3 of the proposed classes of stations would have excellent merit.

I would like to suggest, though, that the Commission take as much of a 'T-shirt and jeans' approach to low/micropower stations as possible, rather than the normal 'suit and tie' manner inherent in bureaucratic agencies. In addition to agreeing with the more relaxed approach to LPFM licensing, I feel that the Commission could best serve the needs of people who wish to get into the field by having local people with technical experience act in an advisory capacity to those people, rather than having them deal with Commission staff, broadcast lawyers, etc., directly as they apply for, build, and maintain those stations. In other words, the local 'FCC Micropower Technical Advisor' could be the face of the Commission for LPFM broadcasters, rather than staffers from the regional offices.

Using myself as an example of a technical advisor, let's imagine that John & Mary Smith want to start their own station. The Smiths would contact me for assistance when they first want to apply for their LPFM license, and I would interview them, explaining the requirements for LPFM licensees, and ultimately giving the Commission a recommendation as to whether or not to grant the license. After the license is granted, I would help them with the technical requirements of setting up the station, and at the same time, probably wind up helping them build it. When station inspections are needed I would come by and do those, as well, and so on.

I would be more than willing to offer my services to the Commission as a technical advisor in the Sioux Falls, SD area if the Commission were to adopt the NPRM and license LPFM stations. I also feel that some of the best possible people whose talents could be utilized as technical advisors would be people who have had experience in that kind of station, including some who may have been unlicensed broadcasters in the past. I'm well aware of the Commission's long history of actions against unlicensed broadcasters, and yet, a good number of those people have substantial technical knowledge and skills, which I feel the Commission would be foolish to waste.

Again, I feel that the LPFM proposal holds considerable merit, and I would urge the Commission to adopt the NPRM as is, at least on a tentative basis.

Thank you very much,

-Bob Blechinger