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

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In the Matter of  
(LPFM) Broadcast Service  
Docket No. MM 99-25

To: Federal Communications Commission

Comments of **STEVE A. JAMES**

The pending mergers of clear channel communication and AMFM Inc. worth an estimated \$23.5 billion dollars and a national ownership of 955 radio stations is exactly why the industry needs a diversity of ownership. There by forcing competition which in turn gives the public a better product/service i.e. phone, cable, auto industries. The merging of these two companies is a clear indication that radio for the very few has become just a big money machine with the only voice the dollar. To put this in another perspective after this mega merger is completed to conform to the FCC and Justice Department requirements clear channel will have to divest 125 of its stations, in comparison the total number of minority owned radio stations AM and FM is 305, which makes cleared channel divestment 41% of all minority owned radio stations nationally. With the implementation of such a service as (LPFM) more voices can have more choices which directly impact their community. If according to the NAB (LPFM) is to have so much interference regarding implementation of a (IBOC) system, then what about all of the many short space grandfathered full power FM stations? In my opinion while an (IBOC) system may work now, with all the technological advances in communications coming in the future, it will serve the industry well to take its time in creating a new standard for digital radio broadcasting. One that could be easily implemented and transitioned over from an analog to a digital broadcast system.

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