

Comments to:

Federal Communications Commission FCC 16-61

Before the

Federal Communications Commission

Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of

Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for

Fiscal Year 2016

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MD Docket No. 16-166

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

Adopted: May 18, 2016 Released: May 19, 2016

By the Commission:

Comment Date: June 20, 2016

Reply Comment Date: July 5, 2016

COMMENTS:

I am supplying these comments to note a great disparity in the rate increase to certain types of Broadcast Stations. For some reason the increase from last year to this year is extremely unfair to certain classes of FM stations. Here are examples:

A. FM Class A, B1, C3 under 25K Population --- 2016 rate-\$1200 2015 rate-\$750

This is an increase of 60% !

B. FM Class B, C, C0, C1, C2 under 25K Population --- 2016 rate-\$1375 2015 rate-\$925

This is an increase of 48.6% !

C. FM Class A, B1, C3 25K to 75K Population --- 2016 rate-\$1800 2015 rate-\$1500

This is an increase of 20%

D. FM Class B, C, C0, C1, C2 25K to 75K Pop --- 2016 rate-\$2050 2015 rate-\$1625

This is an increase of 26.1%

E. FM Class A, B1, C3 75K to 150K Population --- 2016 rate-\$2400 2015 rate-\$2050

This is an increase of 17%

F. FM Class B, C, C0, C1, C2 25K to 75K Pop --- 2016 rate-\$2050 2015 rate-\$1625
This is an decrease of 8.3% !

The Consumer Price Index from May 2015 to May 2016 is only 1% for all items. Increases of 26.1%, 48.6%, and 60% are extremely out of line with the current state of the economy. Stations with populations under 25,000 served are for the most part, very small "Mom and Pop" style stations. These massive increases will greatly harm these type of stations which generate very small amounts of revenue.

I question the amount for FM Class B, C, C0, C1, C2 25K to 75K pop; this must be a mistake or some sort of typographical error? Why would this rate decrease 8.3%.

At the very least, the Commission should limit increases in any class to some fair average of classes. I suggest a maximum increase of 15% in any class for the year. It is inherently unfair to raise some very small market classes of stations 60% while another class is only raised 14% or 15%

Thank You for your considerations,

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Fitzgerald

Geos Communications, Europa Communications, Scranton Times, L.P., Shamrock Communications; Director of Engineering