

Charles Dowdy  
Comments MB 18-184

My name is Charles Dowdy and I am manager of radio stations WYLK and WJSH. I fully support the MB 18-184 proposal to add the C4 Class station to the FM broadcast band.

Adding a Class C4 service would allow better use of the FM band spectrum by permitting a number of Class A stations to increase power to 12,000 watts ERP. Doing this would provide service to areas currently unserved, without causing or receiving interference from other stations. The C4 class would help broadcasters provide better service within their current and new extended coverage. Residents in the new coverage areas would receive programming that is already tailored to their interests.

I feel smaller broadcasters, specifically the class A stations; provide a much needed radio service to residents in the smaller markets. Generally, larger broadcasters operating higher powered stations in nearby markets do not address smaller market needs. This is more the result of the larger station's observed business model than a desire by them not to serve the smaller communities within their service area but, the end result is the same. They tend to go where the money drives them and that is not affected by the larger station's city of license. The smaller stations tend to do a better job addressing their markets and could greatly benefit from this C4 proposal.

The coverage increase allowed by authorizing the C4 Class would have absolutely no impact on any other station. This is insured by the Commission's Rules currently in place. At the end of the day the C4 station would provide service to new residents and the FM Broadcast Band would be used more effectively. The Commission should respond to its mandate to manage the spectrum appropriately by setting into motion the process to make the C4 class immediately available to eligible broadcasters. The C4 proposal simply makes good sense.

Respectfully submitted,

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