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FCC MAIL ROOM

2403 A Capitol Way, S.
Olympia, Wa 98501

15 March 1999

Federal Communications Commission
Attn. : NPRM # 99-6
445 12 Street, S.W.
Washington D.C., 20554

Regarding NPRM # FCC 99- 6, MM docket # 99-25 and #95- 25:)

I urge you to adopt rules licensing LOW POWER FM radio that prioritize the needs of under served and under financed communities. Your office has the power, and the mandate, to ensure that ordinary people can claim a piece of the radio pie that large corporations dominate and control. I am confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

By providing Low Power FM radio to smaller communities, people have better access to a wider range of events and services in their area, providing each individual with not only a greater sense of belonging to the community but also to have a chance to reach others in his/ her community. Larger commercial radio stations will still have plenty of power and listener ship, I believe, to make the loss of either of these factors minimal. We've got the technology to better concentrate radio waves to specific frequencies which enables this split to be both functional and economic.

To support this vision, I urge you to legalize micro- radio with the following concerns in mind:

1. There should be completely non commercial service. The current radio spectrum is dominated by commercial media (wether blatant or not (NPR etc.)). LPFM licenses should go to non- commercial community groups who want to use radio to communicate, not to make a profit.
2. Licenses should be held locally, be non- transferable, affordable to all communities, easy to apply for, NOT businesses, and limited to one licence holder.
3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas and up to 250 watts in rural areas.
4. NO secondary status.
5. Micro broadcast pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines should receive amnesty, have property returned, and be prioritized for new licenses.
6. Problems, technical or otherwise, should be referred to the local voluntary micro power

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organization for assistance or mediation (e.g. The Ham radio model). The FCC should be the forum of last resort.

7. LPFM must be included in the future of digital radio.

8. If the FCC intends to license some commercial radio stations, they must be licensed last. In this instance, there should be a 2 year "head start" for non commercial licenses. The right of citizens to communicate is protected by the Constitution and the FCC's mandate. The right to make money though local radio is not.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of these vital issues.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ray Falke". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the printed name.

Raymond Falke