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July 28, 1999

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
1919 M Street
Room 222, NW
Washington, DC 20554

MM Docket 99-25

Dear Chairman and Commissioners,

I would like to take this time to comment on the proposed rulemaking on low power FM radio service. Although some may agree with this proposal, it will ultimately be a detriment to the radio industry. The small market stations are already meeting all of the supposed advantages of licensing LPFM stations. And by allowing LPFM stations into the market the FCC is freely opening the doorway for increased piracy to fill the airways. I hop that you decision on LPFM will be to not allow the proposal to become active.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely yours,

Penny L Larrabee

Penny Larrabee
Office Manager
WULF

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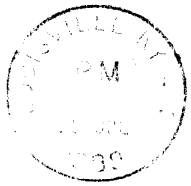
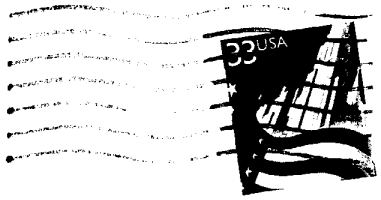
List ABCDE

**WULF 94.3**
815 E. Lincoln Trail Blvd.
Radcliff, KY 40160





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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETART
1919 M STREET
ROOM 222, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

TW-B204

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DK-99-25

**From:** remo <remo@best.com>
**To:** K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNESS),K...
**Date:** Sat, Jul 17, 1999 1:00 AM
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

RECEIVED
JUL 30 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

=To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman,
Commissioner Gloria Tristani,
Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals 455 Twelfth Street S.W. Washington, DC 20554
cc: President Clinton, Hillary ClintonVice President Al Gore,
Bill Bradley, and George Bush, Jr.
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

MM Docket No. 99-25
Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

We are writing to commend you and the Federal Communications Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the diverse, local needs of listeners. And, for poor people and others who are considered unimportant to the advertising community, radio increasingly has little to offer. Again, the great tragedy of this situation is that radio is the ideal medium to provide an accessible local service for democratic communications of interest and value to the entire population.

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Awarding licenses for new low power FM radio stations would empower local communities with a new public forum to express its many voices, cultures, ideas, and needs. Low power radio stations would create much needed public fora for a variety of groups - including community activists, youth, ethnic and linguistic minorities, the religious community, local artists and cultural associations - and provide a forum for dialogue and debate about important local and public interest issues. These kinds of stations would strengthen community identity in urban neighborhoods, rural towns and other communities which are currently too small to win attention from "mainstream", profit-driven media.

The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide public support. The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated by the emergence of a national Free Radio Movement, widespread civil disobedience, constitutional challenges of the Commission's aggressively enforced 21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of unlicensed community radio stations supported by local government, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of property, arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities.
In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition (mec@tao.ca), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

To support this vision, we urge you to legalize microradio with the following concerns in mind:

1. Microradio licenses should be awarded for non-commercial use only. The current radio spectrum is dominated by commercial media. LPFM licenses should go to non-commercial community groups who want to use radio to communicate with their neighbors, not make profit from them.

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3. Power levels should be up to 100 watts in urban areas and up to 250 watts in rural areas.

4. The Commission should NOT diminish new low-power stations to "secondary status." It would be a tragedy to take away licenses from low-power community stations just because the Commission subsequently granted a power increase to a pre-existing station or granted a new high power license somewhere nearby.

5. The Commission should grant full amnesty for the microbroadcast

pioneers who have suffered government seizure and fines. Their property should be returned. They should be granted equal opportunity in applying for and receiving new licenses.

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7. LPFM must be protected and maintained in the future as radio makes the transition from analog to digital broadcasting.

8. If the FCC intends to license some commercial stations, they must be licensed last. In this instance, there should be a 2 year "headstart" 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 through local radio is not a protection under the FCC's mandate.

9. Stations should be locally programmed. However recorded materials such as music, poetry, documentaries, features etc. may be used. Sharing of program materials and resources among micro and community stations is strongly encouraged. No more than 20% of air time from off-site feeds or syndicated tapes.

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11. Within two years new spectrum space (including any future digital spectrum space) should be allocated for continued expansion of microradio broadcasters so that any community group that wishes to broadcast has access to available spectrum space (frequencies). Further, all manufacturers of consumer radio receivers for sale in the United States should be required to include this spectrum set aside for microradio broadcasters.

12. Licensing fees should be affordable to all communities.

Again, we commend Chairman Kennard and the Commission for your willingness to address these issues. We are hopeful that the creation of a new class of low power FM radio licensing becomes a reality during the Chairman's present term. We look forward to working on making the airwaves more accessible for our local communities.

Signed,

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Robert W. McChesney, Madison

Steering Committee:
Sara Zia Ebrahimi, Philadelphia
Diane Fleming, Philadelphia
Peter Franck, San Francisco
Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.
Alan Korn, San Francisco
Greg Ruggiero, New York City

Robert W. McChesney-- University Of Illinois, Urbana

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Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

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DK-99-25

**From:** Elizabeth Ann Cody <bethcody@netscape.net>
**To:** ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
**Date:** Sat, Jul 17, 1999 2:18 AM
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

This email was submitted by Elizabeth Ann Cody (bethcody@netscape.net) on Saturday, July 17, 1999 at 01:18:39

---

address: 3 Ridge Road

city: Atlantic

state: IA

zip: 50022

Submit: Send to FCC

---

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
455 Twelfth Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition
cc: Americans for Radio Diversity

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DK-99-25

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JUL 30 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**From:** Donald Martin Criss <martinc@3lefties.com>
**To:** ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
**Date:** Fri, Jul 16, 1999 7:10 PM
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Donald Martin Criss (martinc@3lefties.com) on Friday, July 16, 1999 at 18:10:26

---

comments: Give us back the airwaves!!!

address: 1532 West 17th Lane.

city: Portales

state: NM

zip: 88130

Submit: Send to FCC

---

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
455 Twelfth Street S.W.
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cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

ORIGINAL EX PARTE OR LATE FILED DK-99-25

**From:** Gene <gmarshal@ninenet.com>
**To:** K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNESS),K...
**Date:** Fri, Jul 16, 1999 7:35 PM
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide public support. The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated by the emergence of a national Free Radio Movement, widespread civil disobedience, constitutional challenges of the Commission's aggressively enforced 21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of unlicensed community radio stations supported by local government, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of property, arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities.
In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition (mec@tao.ca), we urge you to legalize microradio in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

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4. The Commission should NOT diminish new low-power stations to "secondary status." It would be a tragedy to take away licenses from low-power community stations just because the Commission subsequently granted a power increase to a pre-existing station or granted a new high power license somewhere nearby.

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11. Within two years new spectrum space (including any future digital spectrum space) should be allocated for continued expansion of microradio broadcasters so that any community group that wishes to broadcast has access to available spectrum space (frequencies). Further, all manufacturers of consumer radio receivers for sale in the United States should be required to include this spectrum set aside for microradio broadcasters.

12. Licensing fees should be affordable to all communities.

Again, we commend Chairman Kennard and the Commission for your willingness to address these issues. We are hopeful that the creation of a new class of low power FM radio licensing becomes a reality during the Chairman's present term. We look forward to working on making the airwaves more accessible for our local communities.

Signed,

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Diane Fleming, Philadelphia
Peter Franck, San Francisco
Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.
Alan Korn, San Francisco
Greg Ruggiero, New York City

Robert W. McChesney-- University Of Illinois, Urbana

Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology
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Jamie Love--Director, Consumer Project on Technology
Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press
Juliet Schor--Harvard University
Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=
name=Gene Marshall
street=1651-B Huntington Hill Dr
city=St. Louis
state=MO
zip=63021
=Send to FCC

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DK-9925

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JUL 30 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**From:** Ronald F. Hill, Sr <wnycajun@sunlink.net>
**To:** ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
**Date:** Sat, Jul 17, 1999 3:37 PM
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Ronald F. Hill, Sr (wnycajun@sunlink.net)
on Saturday, July 17, 1999 at 14:37:03

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comments: I support the creation of an LPFM radio system in the US, an I decry the actions of the rich and powerfull in their attempt to stop "We the People" from access to what WE OWN, it is time to stop this and to allow hard working AMERICAN People their birthrights in all they endeavor!.

address: 602 South Market Street (Apt. D)

city: Selinsgrove

state: Pa

zip: 17870

Submit: Send to FCC

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To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
455 Twelfth Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition
cc: Americans for Radio Diversity

MM Docket No. 99-25
Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

We are writing to commend you and the Federal Communications Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that

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diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the diverse, local needs of listeners. And, for poor people and others who are considered unimportant to the advertising community, radio increasingly has little to offer. Again, the great tragedy of this situation is that radio is the ideal medium to provide an accessible local service for democratic communications of interest and value to the entire population.

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Carl Jensen--Founder, Project Censored
Ellen Braune--Publicist
Jamie Love--Director, Consumer Project on Technology

Efia Nwangaza -- Attorney/Coordinator, Greenville Malcolm X Grassroots
Movement for Self Determination
Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press
Gary Ruskin--Director, Commercial Alert
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

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DK-99-25

**From:** Carol Mary Blanchard <cblanch@massed.net>
**To:** ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
**Date:** Sat, Jul 17, 1999 3:43 PM
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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JUL 30 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

This email was submitted by Carol Mary Blanchard (cblanch@massed.net) on Saturday, July 17, 1999 at 14:43:23

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comments: The trend towards less diversity in radio (and other media) alarms me. As more news sources are swallowed up by big companies (that own other, non-media businesses), the chances for citizens to get a variety of views on subjects erodes. Even music oriented radio stations have preordained playlists that prevent the public from hearing more of a diversity of music. I feel the role of government is to protect free speech, not to protect the business interests of Disney, etc.

address: 16 Don Emerson Rd., Chesterfield Ma.

address2: P.O. Box 424

city: Williamsburg

state: Ma

zip: 01096

Submit: Send to FCC

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To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

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