

CENTRAL

DK99-25

From: Michael J drum <Mychael@P590Home.sparks.nv.us>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Thu, Jul 22, 1999 4:11 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Michael J drum (Mychael@P590Home.sparks.nv.us) on Thursday, July 22, 1999 at 03:11:35

comments: I support the creation of an LPFM radio system in the US for true community radio

address: PO Box 20871

city: Sun Valley

state: NV

zip: 89433-0871

Submit: Send to FCC

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AUG 02 1999

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED
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 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 diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not merely to be the recipients of what a handful of other people

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tell them. It is a nonnegotiable component of our right to a free press and free speech.

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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) and Americans for Radio Diversity (ard@radparker.com), 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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Diane Fleming, Philadelphia
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Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.
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Gary Ruskin--Director, Commercial Alert
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

ORIGINAL

DK-99-25

From: Ian A. Dunn <Ian_Dunn@Yahoo.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Thu, Jul 22, 1999 4:33 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Ian A. Dunn (Ian_Dunn@Yahoo.com) on Thursday, July 22, 1999 at 03:33:45

comments: I support the creation of an LPFM radio system in the US

address: 2024 Trentwood Cir

city: Dayton

state: OH

zip: 45459

Submit: Send to FCC

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ORIGINAL

DK-99-25

From: Phil Hurley - Grapevine Publications <network@grapevinepublications.com>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Thu, Jul 22, 1999 1:37 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Phil Hurley - Grapevine Publications (network@grapevinepublications.com) on Thursday, July 22, 1999 at 00:37:43

comments: Without low-power radio availably freedom of speech only exist for the rich . Give freedom a chance.

Phil Hurley - Director
Grapevine Publications

address: P. O. Box 45057

city: Boise

state: ID

zip: 83711

Submit: Send to FCC

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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

From: Leonard Martin <lmarti49@bellsouth.net>
To: ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
Date: Sat, Jul 24, 1999 6:56 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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This email was submitted by Leonard Martin (lmarti49@bellsouth.net)
 on Saturday, July 24, 1999 at 05:56:17

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AUG 02 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

comments: DEAR FCC COMMISSIONERS:

I KNOW FORM LETTERS DON'T MEAN MUCH TO YOU, SO I'M ADDING MY COMMENTS IN CAPS. I'M A WELL-EDUCATED, DISABLED PERSON WITH A LIVELY CURIOSITY. I LIKE LEARNING ABOUT PEOPLE, ETHNIC GROUPS, MINORITY CULTURES, AND HOW VARIOUS GROUPS TALK AND INTERACT, AND I LIKE HEARING PEOPLE BEING CREATIVE AND OFFERING NEW IDEAS TO THE WORLD. I BET LOTS OF OTHER PEOPLE SHARE SOME OR ALL OF THESE CHARACTERISTICS. I WANT TO TELL YOU THAT FOR SUCH PEOPLE THERE IS LITTLE OR NOTHING ON COMMERCIAL RADIO FOR US TO USE TO FILL OUR TIME. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 3 VARIETIES OF MUSIC, ENDLESS ADS, SPORTS, AND RIGHT-WING COMMENTARY. THAT ABOUT CONVERS IT. IT IS HEARTBREAKING TO WATCH WHAT COULD BE A SOURCE OF SO MUCH PLEASURE AND LEARNING TURNED, BY DEMOGRAPHIC AND ESPECIALLY COMMERCIAL PRESSURES, INTO A VAST SAMENESS.

PUBLIC RADIO BRINGS US CLASSICAL MUSIC, AND FOR THAT I THANK GOD, BUT IT IS INCREASINGLY INTIMIDATED AND IMPOVERISHED, AT LEAST IN MY COMMUNITY. THAT MEANS THAT IT IS GROWING EVER MORE TIMID AND COMMERCIAL IN WHAT IT PRESENTS. OUR LOCAL PUBLIC STATION ONLY DARES DEVIATE FROM LOCAL POLITICAL ORTHODOXY BY PRESENTING THE SLIGHTLY LIBERAL NPR NEWS. THERE IS A POWERFUL HIGH SCHOOL STATION HERE THAT PLAYS IT SAFE BY PLAYING ALMOST NOTHING BUT BLAND, MUZAK-STYLE JAZZ. ON OUR PUBLIC STATION A MINORITY VOICE IS NEVER HEARD. ON THE HIGH SCHOOL STATION THE ONLY MINORITY VOICE IS A LITTLE BLACK MUSIC ON SATURDAY. THE REST OF THE DIAL IS WHAT I DESCRIBED AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS LETTER, AND NOTHING ELSE.

PLEASE HELP EVERYONE IN MY SHOES BY APPROVING THE MICROBROADCASTING INITIATIVE. AND PLEASE ALSO PROTECT THE DIVERSITY IT COULD CREATE BY KEEPING THE COMMERCIAL INTERESTS OUT. THERE SEEMS NO END TO THE AMOUNT OF BLANDNESS THEY CAN CREATE IN THE INTEREST OF INSURING THEIR PROFITS. IF YOU LET THEM IN THIS NEW SERVICE YOU WILL SIMPLY HAVE DESTROYED IT BY THE ACT OF CREATING IT. ALL IT WILL CONTAIN IS YET MORE ROCK, COUNTRY, AND RAP MUSIC, SPORTS, AND RIGHT-WING COMMENTARY. CAN A TRUE DEMOCRACY THRIVE ON SUCH IMPOVERISHED DISCOURSE?

LEONARD W. MARTIN
 EDITORIAL EXCELLENCE
 655 NAPOLEON ST.
 BATON ROUGE, LA 70802
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address: 655 Napoleon Street

city: Baton Rouge

state: LA

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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) and Americans for Radio Diversity (ard@radparker.com), 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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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.
6. Problems, technical or otherwise, should be referred to the local voluntary micropower organization for assistance or mediation (e.g. the Ham radio model). The FCC should be the forum of last resort.
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.
10. Licenses should be awarded to unincorporated non-commercial associations, and non-profit organizations.

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
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Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University
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Ron Daniels--Executive Director, Center for Constitutional Rights
George Gerbner--Founder, Cultural Environment Movement
Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
Janine Jackson--Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting
Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego
Juliet Schor--Harvard University
Mark Crispin Miller--New York University
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Elaine Bernard--Harvard Trade Union Program
Al Lewis--Organizer ("Grandpa" from the Munsters)
Dee Dee Halleck--Deep Dish TV
Ben Bagdikian--University of California, Berkeley
Loretta Ross--Executive Director, National Center for Human Rights Education
David C. Korten, Author, and Chair of the Positive Futures Network,
publishers of YES Magazine
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

ORIGINAL

From: Pete Ritter <pete@commtech.com>
To: K2DOM.K2PO1(GTRISTAN),K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,SNESS),K...
Date: Wed, Jul 21, 1999 9:33 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

DK-99-25

=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,
 Bill Bradley, and George W Bush
 cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

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AUG 02 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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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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.

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Gloria Steinem--Ms.
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Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

Additional Comments=A healthy democracy cannot exist without the opportunity for everyone to be heard and to hear others. The airwaves belong to everyone. Commercial broadcasting has utterly failed to provide the broad, diverse programming that democracy requires.

name=Carl Ritter
street=206 Thistle Dr
city=Garland
state=TX
zip=75043
=Send to FCC

ORIGINAL

DK-99-25

From: Gilbert Rankin <allegory@ricochet.net>
To: K1DOM.K1PO1(BKENNARD),K4DOM.K4PO2(SNESS,MPOWELL),K...
Date: Sat, Jul 24, 1999 6:10 AM
Subject: In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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,
Bill Bradley, and George W Bush
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition

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