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99-25

**From:** Jacob Miguel Sawyer <jsawyer@bayou.uh.edu>
**To:** ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
**Date:** Fri, Jul 30, 1999 7:02 PM
**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 Jacob Miguel Sawyer (jsawyer@bayou.uh.edu) on Friday, July 30, 1999 at 18:02:23

---

address: 2601 Old Hwy 146 #27

city: La Porte

state: TX

zip: 77571

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

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.

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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.

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) 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.

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

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Robert W. McChesney, Madison

Steering Committee:
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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

Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University
Nancy Kranich--Librarian
Ron Daniels--Executive Director ,Center for Constitutional Rights
George Gerbner--Founder, Cultural Environment Movement
Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
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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 EX PARTE OR LATE FILED 99-25

**From:** Damian Swain <swainland@aol.com>
**To:** ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
**Date:** Sat, Jul 31, 1999 12:36 AM
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Damian Swain (swainland@aol.com)
on Friday, July 30, 1999 at 23:36:42

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comments: I wholeheartedly support this. It is ABOUT TIME we had some more say in our own lives.

address: po box 990234

city: redding

state: CA

zip: 96099

Submit: Send to FCC

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
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Commissioner Michael Powell
Commissioner Susan Ness
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Federal Communications Commission
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cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
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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

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Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

ORIGINAL EX PARTE OR LATE FILED 99-25

**From:** Andrew Wilson <awilson@drexel.edu>
**To:** ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
**Date:** Fri, Jul 30, 1999 11:40 PM
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

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AUG 23 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

This email was submitted by Andrew Wilson (awilson@drexel.edu)
on Friday, July 30, 1999 at 22:40:32

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address: P.O.Box 251

address2: 6 N. Pennsylvania Ave.

city: Bethany Beach

state: DE

zip: 19930

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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cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore
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Gary Ruskin--Director, Commercial Alert
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

ORIGINAL

99-25

**From:** George C. Wilson <gcwilson@bga.com>
**To:** ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
**Date:** Fri, Jul 30, 1999 11:14 PM
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by George C. Wilson (gcwilson@bga.com)
on Friday, July 30, 1999 at 22:14:10

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AUG 2 3 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

comments: Microradio allows small broadcasters to serve the community in which they live. Citizens should be encouraged, not punished, for broadcasting. Power over information should be held by the people, not just the corporations. After all, the government should hold the interests of the people above all other concerns.

address: 5507 Bennett Ave.

city: Austin

state: TX

zip: 78751

Submit: Send to FCC

---

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman
Commissioner Gloria Tristani
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Gary Ruskin--Director, Commercial Alert
Barbara Ehrenreich--Author
Gloria Steinem--Ms.
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED 99-25

**From:** Reverend Fraschi <waefre@disinfo.com>
**To:** ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
**Date:** Fri, Jul 30, 1999 10:37 PM
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Reverend Fraschi (waefre@disinfo.com)
on Friday, July 30, 1999 at 21:37:10

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AUG 23 1999
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

address: 508 w37th st #205

city: san pedro

state: ca

zip: 90731

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

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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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) 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.

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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99-25

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AUG 2 3 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**From:** Brendan Hogan <Elf70@hotmail.com>
**To:** ROUTE_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")
**Date:** Fri, Jul 30, 1999 9:09 PM
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Brendan Hogan (Elf70@hotmail.com)
on Friday, July 30, 1999 at 20:09:02

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comments: "A Nation that does not make a peacefull revolution possible makes a violent one inevitable."
JFK

Although the Constitution promises free speech for everyone there are prescious few arena's available. Please make Micro-Broadcasting legal.

address: 931 Washiginton St. SW.

city: Albany

state: OR

zip: 973221

Submit: Send to FCC

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Commissioner Gloria Tristani
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