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Date: 10/30/01 5:24PM
Subject: Save Chanel 16, Pittsburgh

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Dear FCC Commissioners:

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WQEX, Channel 16 in Pittsburgh, PA is a public station, created for educational use. It cannot and must not be sold without the express consent of the public it serves.

As you know, station managers who have mishandled its funds are trying to clean up their mess by selling off Channel 16 (which was making, not losing, money) to the highest bidder?even to private interests who would not use the station for educational purposes. FCC approval of these actions would set a dangerous precedent, threatening the future of public television in other cities. I am confident that you will stand firm against the station?s attempts to sell and see through their unfounded arguments that Pittsburgh cannot support two stations. It has in the past, as have other cities, and the station managers have totally ignored many public groups who are developing alternatives to the sell-off.

Please do the right thing and protect public television. Urge the station to work with and for our community, not against it.

Thank you,

Dr. Lorraine Higgins
Department of English
University of Pittsburgh

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