

From: Wakisha Fortwengler
To: Mike Powell
Date: Mon, Nov 4, 2002 10:56 PM
Subject: Preserve Diversity and Openness in the Media and on the Internet

BUCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

Wakisha Fortwengler
1806 North Minnesota Street, #2
New Ulm, MN 56073

November 4, 2002

Federal Communications Commission Chair Michael K. Powell
445 12th St SW
Rm 8-A204
Washington, DC 20554

Chair Powell:

The Federal Communications Commission is responsible for ensuring that the media serve the public interest. I am concerned that the FCC is acting on behalf of big business rather than the people.

It is clear that the FCC has stepped up its efforts to de-regulate the media and telecommunications industries. You must act now to halt further media consolidation and to preserve the openness and diversity of the Internet.

As a supporter of women's rights, I am concerned that the current media merger free-for-all threatens to rob us all of the independent voices, views and ideas that nourish a pluralistic, democratic society. Ownership consolidation is squeezing out what little diversity remains in the marketplace.

The media are more than just a business: they bring information to people that affects their lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy, and women cannot pursue equal rights, if we are uninformed on the issues. The media have a responsibility to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. It is your job to promote this.

Please remember U.S. consumers and citizens when you review any further regulations. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources.

Sincerely,

Wakisha Fortwengler

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

From: Phil Bellfy
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/22/02 9:26PM
Subject: media concentration

ECFS - E-mail Filing
<PROCEEDING> 02-277
<DATE> 11/19/2002
<NAME> [Phil Bellfy]
<ADDRESS1> [262 Bessey Hall]
<ADDRESS2> [Michigan State University]
<CITY> [East Lansing]
<STATE> [MI]
<ZIP> [48824]
<LAW-FIRM>
<ATTORNEY>
<FILE-NUMBER>
<DOCUMENT-TYPE: CO>
<PHONE-NUMBER: [517-355-4666]>
<DESCRIPTION> EMAIL COMMENT
<CONTACT-EMAIL> [bellfy@msu.edu]
<TEXT> Dear Commissioners of the FCC,

01-235
NOV 09 2002

Please retain the remaining rules governing media ownership. Further concentration of ownership will have serious consequences for our culture and democracy, by stifling dissenting voices and further dumbingdown the information available to consumers.

There has already been far too much concentration of media; making that concentration worse seems absurd.

Yours truly,

Phil Bellfy

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

From: Jennifer Sharkey
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/11/02 12:23AM
Subject: Preserve Diversity and Openness in the Media and on the Internet

Jennifer Sharkey
65 Ravine Ave.
Wyckoff, NJ 07481

November 11, 2002

Federal Communications Commission Chair Michael K. Powell
445 12th St SW
Rm 8-A204
Washington, DC 20554

Chair Powell:

The Federal Communications Commission is responsible for ensuring that the media serve the public interest. I am concerned that the FCC is acting on behalf of big business rather than the people.

It is clear that the FCC has stepped up its efforts to de-regulate the media and telecommunications industries. You must act now to halt further media consolidation and to preserve the openness and diversity of the Internet.

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Please remember U.S. consumers and citizens when you review any further regulations. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources.

Sincerely,

Jennifer A. Sharkey

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

From: Jennifer Polis
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/10/02 7:07PM
Subject: Media Concentration

01-235

Mr. Powell,

I'm very concerned about media concentration in the US. I am also a reporter/editor for Indymedia. Perhaps you have heard of us. We are a loose group of media activists who don't believe that the media is working for the public interest.

I am working on an article about the public comment period currently taking place until Dec. 10. There are many people out there (other than media activists -- just regular folks) who think that there is too much media concentration, and that these "public comment periods" are merely a show. Can you please respond to my questions so I can include your comments in my article. I would really appreciate it:

As the chairman of the FCC, many have expressed that you will usher in a new era of exceptional media concentration. How do you answer to those charges?

Are you willing to fight for the fact that the airwaves are owned by the public, yet people can't get their message on network TV without paying exorbitant amounts of money? Why can't regular folks make commercials fighting "corporate America" and get heard? An example of this is the Adbusters organization, which routinely tries to put anti-capitalist messages on TV and gets shot down everytime. They can't even run their "But Nothing Day" ad on any major networks because the establishment doesn't like their message. With the FCC's hearings about media concentration in full swing, are you actually taking people's concerns seriously, or is this just a show to act like you care about the little guy?

Also, what is your relationship with Colin Powell, and does the fact that you are related to him influence your decisions at all?

I appreciate your prompt reply

Sincerely,
Jennifer Polis

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01-235

From: IVAO@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/11/02 6:49PM
Subject: Proposed new rules

11/11/02

Dear Chairperson Powell:

I saw a television program saying the FCC is considering dismantling the last rules that would prevent more consolidation.

There is way too much consolidation in the mainstream media now. Not only do I object to more consolidation, I would like to see the FCC take a much stronger stand to get fair and unbiased information to the public such as your proposed change in rules about which almost no one has heard and what little we have heard is non specific. The information on your web site is confusing and fails to translate information to normal English so that people who do not work for the government can understand it.

Please consider this a strong objection to allowing more consolidation of the ownership of media entities in the same market.

Sincerely,

Iva Oshaunesy
140 Monticello Dr.
Longview, WA 98632-9522
ivao@aol.com
360 903 9490 cell
360 578 1326 phone

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

From: ROGER BALL
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/10/02 4:49PM
Subject: Consolidation

01-235

I want to go on record as OPPOSING any further consolidation in the media industry. The current administration is dedicated to accommodating business interests, but in so doing will positively undermine the right we have as U.S. citizens to a competitive, therefore broad and varied source of information. To my way of thinking freedom of the press is already seriously imperiled.

From: Eli Osterberg
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/21/02 4:53PM
Subject: FCC promote media diversity

01-235

Dear Mr. Powell:

Numerous reports agree that the Federal Communications is planning to loosen longstanding rules governing control of the media that bring news and views to the American public. This will inevitably lead to monopoly, by a few large corporate giants, of TV stations, newspapers, and broadcast networks.

I urge you to oppose these FCC plans that threaten public access to diverse views and information.

Sincerely

Eli Osterberg

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

From: Cedar Dvorin
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/21/024:53PM
Subject: FCC promote media diversity

Dear Mr. Powell:

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Sincerely

Cedar Dvorin

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

From: Paul Tifford
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/21/02 4:52PM
Subject: FCC promote media diversity

02/11/03

01-235

Dear Mr. Powell:

Numerous reports agree that the Federal Communications is planning to loosen longstanding **rules** governing control of the media that bring news and views to the American public. This will inevitably lead to monopoly, by a few large corporate giants, of TV stations, newspapers, and broadcast networks.

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Sincerely

Paul Tifford

DUCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

From: Dan Wylie-Sears
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/21/02 4:53PM
Subject: FCC promote media diversity

Dear Mr. Powell:

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Sincerely

Daniel S. Wylie-Sears

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

11/21/02 4:53 PM

01-235

From: Robert Goodin
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/21/02 4:53PM
Subject: FCC promote media diversity

Dear Mr. Powell:

Numerous reports agree that the Federal Communications is planning to loosen longstanding rules governing control of the media that bring news and views to the American public. This will inevitably lead to monopoly, by a few large corporate giants, of TV stations, newspapers, and broadcast networks.

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Sincerely

RJG

From: Kathryn Joseph
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/18/02 10:10PM
Subject: Preserve Diversity and Openness in the Media and on the Internet

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01-235

Kathryn Joseph
12201
Tampa, FL 33617

November 18, 2002

NOV 19 2002

Federal Communications Commission Chair Michael K. Powell
445 12th St SW
Rm 8-A204
Washington, DC 20554

Chair Powell:

The Federal Communications Commission is responsible for ensuring that the media serve the public interest. I am concerned that the FCC is acting on behalf of big business rather than the people.

It is clear that the FCC has stepped up its efforts to de-regulate the media and telecommunications industries. You must act now to halt further media consolidation and to preserve the openness and diversity of the Internet.

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Sincerely,

Kathryn Joseph

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

From: Hilary Franklin
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/21/02 4:53PM
Subject: FCC promote media diversity

Dear Mr. Powell:

Numerous reports agree that the Federal Communications is planning to loosen longstanding rules governing control of the media that bring news and views to the American public. This will inevitably lead to monopoly, by a few large corporate giants, of TV stations, newspapers, and broadcast networks.

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Sincerely

Hilary Franklin

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

From: Imre Bard
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/21/02 4:53PM
Subject: FCC promote media diversity

Dear Mr. Powell:

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Sincerely

Imre Bard

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

From: Erin Mock
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/21/02 4:53PM
Subject: FCC promote media diversity

Dear Mr. Powell:

Numerous reports agree that the Federal Communications **is** planning to loosen longstanding rules governing control of the media that bring news and views to the American public. This will inevitably lead to monopoly, by a few large corporate giants, of TV stations, newspapers, and broadcast networks.

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Sincerely

Erin Lee Mock

From: Maria Dwight
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/8/02 4:51PM
Subject: Preserve Diversity and Openness in the Media and on the Internet

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

Maria Dwight
3363 Moore St
Los Angeles CA 90066

November 8, 2002

Federal Communications Commission Chair Michael K. Powell
445 12th St SW
Rm 8-A204
Washington, DC 20554

Chair Powell:

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Sincerely,

Maria B. Dwight

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

From: Than Hannon
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/21/024:53PM
Subject: FCC promote media diversity

Dear Mr. Powell:

Numerous reports agree that the Federal Communications is planning to loosen longstanding rules governing control of the media that bring news and views to the American public. This will inevitably lead to monopoly, by a few large corporate giants, of *TV* stations, newspapers, and broadcast networks.

I urge you to oppose these FCC plans that threaten public access to diverse views and information.

Sincerely

Nathaniel Hannon

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

From: David Horvath
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/21/02 4:53PM
Subject: FCC promote media diversity

Dear **Mr.** Powell:

Numerous reports agree that the Federal Communications is planning to loosen longstanding rules governing control of the media that bring news and views to the American public. This will inevitably lead to monopoly, by a few large corporate giants, of TV stations, newspapers, and broadcast networks.

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Sincerely

David Horvath

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

NOV 20 2002

01-235

From: Abbie Audus
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/20/02 4:13PM
Subject: Preserve Diversity and Openness in the Media and on the Internet

Abbie Audus
907 N Logan St.
Fremont, NE 68025

November 20, 2002

Federal Communications Commission Chair Michael K. Powell
445 12th St SW
Rm 8-A204
Washington, DC 20554

Chair Powell:

The Federal Communications Commission is responsible for ensuring that the media serve the public interest. I am concerned that the FCC is acting on behalf of big business rather than the people.

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Sincerely,

Abbie L. Audus

01-275

Sharon Jenkins - OPEN UP MEDIA OWNERSHIP; STOP MONOPOLY CONSOLIDATION

From: "William McNairn" <wnbm2@msn.com>
To: "Michael Powell" <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/26/2002 2:11 AM
Subject: OPEN UP MEDIA OWNERSHIP; STOP MONOPOLY CONSOLIDATION

OPEN UP MEDIA OWNERSHIP: STOP MONOPOLY CONSOLIDATION

Please stop the deadly consolidation of ownership of newspapers, radio, and television entities. The pursuit of private profits should not be allowed to convert the multiple voices of democracy into one huge commercial bull horn controlled by a few monopolists for their personal benefit. Chasing the efficiencies of monopoly at the expense of losing the benefits of widespread democratic discussion is a horrible bargain that would lead us down the road to one-voice corporate fascism.

WILLIAM N. MCNAIRN

DUCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-235

Sharon Jenkins - public comment on proposed changes in media ownership rules

From: "John Lawson" <Lawsonj@rmu.edu>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/27/2002 2:24 PM
Subject: public comment on proposed changes in media ownership rules

I understand that the FCC is seeking public comment on proposed changes in media ownership rules, but I see no place on your website to offer such comment except via email.

Two points.

1) Computer-mediated communication gives the Commission an opportunity to solicit—and receive—a far broader representation of public comment on such vital issues. In order to stimulate that kind of public input, the Commission would have to be more creative in its outreach to the public.

2) The Telecommunications Act of 1996 has been a total disaster for competition and breadth of media ownership. I urge the Commission not to consider rule changes that would allow further monopolistic concentration of media ownership. Indeed, I urge you to do whatever is necessary to reverse the incredible concentration that has occurred over the last couple of decades.

I'm sure the political pressures on the Commission are considerable. But I hope that you and the other Commission members will take steps to ensure that your legacy is not one of selling out the American people's interests to a few corporate conglomerates.

Thanks for your consideration.

John Lawson, PhD
Assistant Professor of Communications
Robert Morris University

01-235

Sharon Jenkins - Media Owership rules

From: Fagen-Smith <fagensmith@starpower.net>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/27/2002 1:24 PM
Subject: Media Owership rules

Dear Commissioner Powell,

I am a citizen who is very concerned about the proposed revision to the Media Ownership rules. It is clear from recent experience that relaxing rules on media ownership -- between broadcast and newspaper, **and** between television and radio -- will produce a stark decrease in the number of entities that control these media outlets. The dominance of Cox and ClearChannel in the radio market is a clear indication of the desire of these companies to reach economies of scale, and to eliminate the role of local entities in ownership of these outlets.

It has been demonstrated that achieving these economies of scale does not even attain the one consumer-oriented goal that is often promised: reduced fees for consumers. Even as the number of cable companies has continued to diminish, costs to consumers have continued to increase; the same has been true in the long distance telephone market.

Please do not undermine the few rules that continues to keep multiple voices open in broadcast and print media. If broadcast and print media Outlets are allowed to go the way of commercial radio, that will be a tragic loss for citizens across this country, and evidence that the FCC has failed to fulfill its mandate to protect the "public interest, convenience and necessity."

Sincerely,

Douglas Fagen

Sharon Jenkins -variety of ownership of TV, Radio, Newspapers, Magazines

DUCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL 01-235

From: "Carleton Spotts" <spotts234@mchsi.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/26/2002 3:25 PM
Subject: variety of ownership of TV, Radio, Newspapers, Magazines
CC: <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <mcopps@fcc.gov>, <kjmweb@fcc.gov>

It is my understanding that you are having public hearings concerning the possible relaxation of the rules for media ownership. I would like my opinion to be included in this deliberation.

For some time I have been very concerned that most of the media outlets cover the same news events in much the same way and in similar proportions. What seem to be relatively unimportant stories often seem to be over-emphasized perhaps because of their dramatic interest and what seem to be important events or statements often receive little or no coverage by most outlets. The real worry is that most media outlets seem to go the same way and make the same decisions. Exceptions to this trend are Public Radio, BBC, and Public Television.

I have to believe that this similarity and consequent weakness of news coverage is primarily because of consolidated ownership by a few corporations and a consequent lack of competition. This is very dangerous to our democratic form of government that depends upon a well-informed electorate. It follows that non-news programs also tend to be very similar and attempt to reach what the few owners believe are the majority viewers: with more competition, someone would realize that his outlet could do very well reaching a large percentage of non-majority viewers rather than a small percentage of majority viewers.

In summary, I strongly believe that rules limiting multiple ownership of media outlets should be strengthened rather than weakened. We very much need the availability of multiple views and coverage emphases. Thank you for your consideration of my views.

I should note that coverage by news media of your hearings has been very poor (could it be because the media owners wish it to be that way?) and that you probably have received very few comments. I hope you will make an effort to augment this coverage and extend your deadline so that interested people have a chance to contact you.

01-238

Sharon Jenkins - public comment before Dec. 2002 re the Tribune

From: "D. Morley" <rutabaga@opendoor.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/26/2002 2:41 PM
Subject: public comment before Dec. 2002 re the Tribune
CC: <mcopps@fcc.gov>, <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <kjmweb@fcc.gov>

10/26/2002

Michael Powell, Chair
The FCC
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Powell:

The current media situation, past mergers having created fewer and fewer corporate owners of newspapers, radio, and TV stations is one that goes completely against our democratic beliefs.

A democracy needs diversity, and we can only get that through the diverse ownership of the various media.

Please do not be swayed by the Tribune's lobbying for monopolistic ownership. If the Tribune should get its way, we will be writing to all our representatives to ask for an investigation of the FCC.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely,

Thomas and Diana Morley
821 Satsuma Court
Ashland, OR 97520

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01-235

Sharon Jenkins - Concentration of media ownership

From: "Nathaniel J. Raskin" <natraskin@northwestern.edu>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/26/2002 11:30 AM
Subject: Concentration of media ownership

Dear Chairman Powell:

The FCC was established in 1934 to see that the nation's broadcasters served the public interest -making sure the airwaves were used for more than commercial purposes alone. The communications revolution you have discussed has brought on the greatest concentration of media ownership in American history. It appears that now the FCC is considering dismantling the last rules that would prevent even more consolidation.

In the name of economic efficiency, media giants such as the Tribune Company are pushing for an end to the rule that prevents a company from owning a newspaper and a television station in the same market. This could result in a situation where one company owns the newspaper, the television station, the radio station and the cable system. I believe that this would do damage to the interests of ordinary citizens like myself.

While the typical cable consumer today receives about 60 channels, those choices are determined by a handful of corporate giants like Viacom, AOL-Time Warner, Disney, and News Corp. They want a deregulatory-minded administration just to get out of their way. While the public has been left unaware of what is happening, time is arowing short. The FCC has set a December 2nd deadline for public comments on the proposed changes. WE NEED MORE TIME FOR DEBATE.

Respectfully,

Nathaniel J. Raskin, Ph.D

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01-235

Sharon Jenkins - relaxing ownership restrictions

From: "tlamsam" <tlamsam@cox.net>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/26/2002 9:19 AM
Subject: relaxing ownership restrictions

Dear Chairman Powell:

The trend of media consolidation is worrisome to me. Further relaxing the ownership restrictions that are left is not a good idea

I would like to say that I don't think the public understands this issue; HOWEVER, I don't think most Americans even know about it. My understanding is that a public comment period will end sometime in the first week of December.

I am disappointed that more effort to inform the public has not been made. It gives the appearance of the FCC coming under the thumb of the media giants.

I would like to think that we have not come to a point in this country in which the average person is more removed from his/her government than corporate entities that can gain attention with money alone. I am aware of the ridiculous number of lobbyists in D.C. They are not there for Joe and Jane Public.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Teresa Trumbly Lamsam
Omaha, NE
former journalist and currently a mom and professor in Communication