

Greetings FCC Commisioners:

I am writing to voice my concern about the FCC's vote, relating to media consolidation on June 2. I believe that voting in favor of this would increase the ability of single corporations to expand their ownership of large percentages of public airwaves and the Internet.

It is my firm conviction that a policy that allows small segments of the population to control information in this way violates our first amendment right to free speech. In the past, when radio and television stations were independently owned, we could depend on healthy dialog, which is the backbone of a true democracy.

Our communication corporations are propaganda machines for a narrow point of view that benefits multinational corporate interests and those government officials that espouse their viewpoint. As access to differing information erodes, our citizens are being reduced to cheering sections for a narrow set of beliefs.

We must support an information network that allows diversity of opinion. We should not support one that constricts our choices and lowers the quality of programing to the lowest common denominator that is profitable.

Only by being able to listen to many sides of a question can we form opinions on issues important to us. Clear Channel has made it increasingly evident that this will not be the case, if we allow a narrow special interest group to own large portions of our public information network.

I urge you to make more choices available to the public by requiring more independently produced programs on communication networks, and a real evaluation of FCC applications for renewal. This is especially important because NPR and PBS have become increasingly dependent on corporate sponsors.

Communication networks are public forums that must benefit the citizenry not just private interests.