

The FCC has requested comments on 99-325 and to that I tender the following comments.:

Re: Rule Changes

A. Service Rules / B. Programming and Operational

I would request the FCC to require of digital broadcasters to submit to listeners no less than 10 hours a day of local programming. Many large corporations and many broadcasters do much of their programming via satellite and neglect listeners in a local area. The FCC could require a 3 minute news cast per hour concerning local events in the City of License.

C. Station ID

Many listeners never hear the station ID and if there is issue with a station, they only hear a slogan. This renders the listener unable to report problems to the FCC. Station ID's are "hidden" cleverly and the listener is still confused when there are IDs given. Please have the station ID be clear to the listener, and if possible, at the top AND BOTTOM of the hour as was the requirement in the past. I am of the opinion that if the stations want to only use a slogan, then the FCC should at least mandate that RDS ID should be in use on FM and for digital AM a constant ID be given, and that all radios sold in the US over a certain threshold value contain an automatic ID system.

C. Technical Rules for AM interference

Medium Wave transmissions carry considerable distances during the dark hours of the evening. Travelling around the country, I have observed the destructive nature of stations carrying digital AM transmissions. 1st and 2nd adjacent frequencies are absolutely rendered unusable with the hiss of digital noise DURING THE DAY. The interference levels at night will be incredible causing irreparable damage to listeners in rural locations. During time of crisis, should the United States be attacked again by terrorists, many of these listeners would be unable to receive vital information and be harmed.

I believe digital transmissions are unfeasable on the AM band. I have no problem with digital on FM and possibly higher UHF frequencies should the FCC open a digital band. As it stands presently, I am opposed to digital transmission on the AM broadcast band.

V/R

Kevin Redding
Mesa, Arizona