

Powell Broadcasting

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

125 Corporate Terrace
Hot Springs, AR 71913
501-525-9700
501-525-9739 (Fax)



May 21, 2004

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: In the Matter of the Commission's Rules Regarding Modification of FM and AM Authorizations (RM-10960)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Federal Communications Commission recently announced that it is seeking comments regarding the Petition of Rulemaking (RM-10960) submitted by First Broadcasting Investment partners, LLC (the "Rulemaking"). The Rulemaking proposes certain amendments to the Commission's rules governing the process for modifying FM and AM radio station licenses and construction permits.

This letter is offered in support of all of the changes requested in the Rulemaking. Because these proposed changes would eliminate inefficiencies and streamline the overall allocations process, we believe it to be in the best interests of station owners, the listening public, and the Commission itself.

Since the last comprehensive review of the FCC's radio allocation procedures in 1982, thousands of new allotments have been awarded through the creation of classes C1, C2, C3 and B while Class A stations have been permitted to increase power from 3kW to 6kW. In addition, many stations have changed their communities of license.

As a result, the number of FCC allocation proceedings and their associated administrative burdens has grown dramatically. Yet the FCC's processing procedures have remained largely unchanged. Commission staffers are overburdened, the process has slowed, and the original public interest intent of the 1982 procedural changes has been impeded.

No. of Copies rec'd _____
List ABCDE

KQUS

KZNG

KLXQ

KYDL

For example, independent operators, who own a disproportionate percentage of disadvantaged signals, often encounter excessive administrative complexity and expense when they seek to improve their signals. The same holds true for minority broadcasters seeking to increase the competitiveness of their stations.

The dedicated professionals in the Commission are also victims of these outdated procedures. They labor under ever-increasing administrative workloads.

Adoption of the First Broadcasting proposals would lift the artificial constraints under which many FCC staffers work today and would represent a major step in the direction of spectrum efficiency. For all the reasons stated above, we wish to express our strong support for the Rulemaking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Mahn", written over a horizontal line.

Ted Mahn
General Manager / Powell Broadcasting