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WPTL 920 AM

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June 24, 2004

Ms. Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20445

RE: FCC Docket Number 04-160

Dear Madam Secretary

Thousands of truly local broadcasters serving the really small local communities across our nation are scrambling today to stay in business.

We do not have the big prize budgets. The deep corporate pockets, or frankly, the time to participate in politics outside our immediate area. We have no Washington Lawyer on retainer. And many of us can't even afford dues to our National Association.

BUT: We invest in our local Hospital Foundation. Air the United Way Kick-off. Air the return of National Guard Troops. Broadcast High School football, basketball, softball, baseball, Graduation Salutes to Seniors, local election returns, local Amber Alerts and Weather Alerts, Lost Pets, Church Announcements and more.

AND WE WERE PROMISED by XM and Sirius that they would remain and be a NATIONAL SERVICE. Now, each has announced launch of localized traffic and weather. This is duplicative and is extremely harmful to all of the local media.

THE ONLY THING A SMALL OR LOCAL STATION HAS LEFT...IS LOCAL SERVICE. ALLOW LOCAL INFORMATION THRU THESE OR OTHER "NATIONAL SERVICES" AND I, AND MY FELLOW LOCAL STATIONS HAVE LOST THE ONLY THING WE EXIST FOR.

The FCC needs to declare its commitment to local radio broadcasting now Grant NAB's petition to make clear that satellite radio services should not be permitted to deliver localized services on nationally distributed channels or local content to a subscriber's receiver based on the geographic location of that receiver.

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Nothing before the FCC or from any other venue, would be more harmful than the proposed extension of "localized" programming by satellite radio.

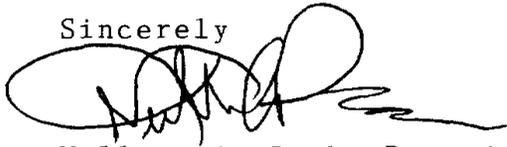
My office is open all day every workday. My community comes to WPTL Radio daily for assistance. This station provides help from groups including local Girl Scouts to Regional and National Organizations.

Of four totally local operations just a few years ago, WPTL is the only locally licensed facility left with a local office open every day. The others have consolidated to metro operations miles away.

Take away the local services our license was designed to provide, and we too will cease to exist.

Please, protect local service.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. A. Reck', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

William A. Reck, President  
Skycountry Broadcasting Inc.  
Radio Station WPTL  
Canton, NC