

Dear Sirs,

I write on behalf of People Power Radio, a local community organization created to apply for a low-power FM station in Sacramento. We completed and submitted an application, and were disappointed by the decision to reduce the number of licences granted. We still hope to re-apply and win a license in the future.

We realize that there is great pressure from the commercial broadcasting establishment, as well as other entities (such as NPR), to quash the growth of low-power FM stations. However, please remember that the airwaves belong to ALL of the people, not just those who are well-financed, and can afford to buy their way into broadcasting.

The present threat... of most available frequencies being taken over by translators... must be stopped until there is a real opportunity given for local community groups to develop their own local media. To promote the proliferation of translators would close the door on further development of local low-power stations, and contribute even more to the growth of broadcasting empires that control hundreds of stations across the nation, sending canned programming from a remote central location.

We urge you, along with others, such as the Prometheus Radio Project, to freeze the process of granting translator licences until an opportunity is given to small local groups, such as ourselves, to apply for and receive low-power FM licences.

One possible solution might be to reserve a certain bandwidth across the nation exclusively for low-power FM stations. Since each low-power station has a range of only a few miles, this would make possible the development of hundreds of low-power, community-based stations that could "share" these frequencies.

Above all, please remember that, as a Federal agency, you have an obligation to serve the interests of ALL the people, not just the few who already have more than their fair share of the airwaves, while many of us have no access at all.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mario Galvan
People Power Radio
Sacramento, CA