

I live in the Asheville, NC area and would like to listen to community radio. I believe that community radio is a direct reflection of the people who live in an area, and I like to stay up to date with what is happening in my community. One station I am unable to pick up is WPVM-LP, 103.5, FM. A non-local station, WIMZ of Knoxville, is creating interference due to the mountains in our area. Radio signals travel differently in the mountains; WIMZ's signal travels down the French Broad River and interferes with our local channel's ability to broadcast. Mountainous terrain provides unique challenges for radio broadcasting. To remedy this, please permit LPFM stations to own translators. Currently LPFM stations are prohibited from owning translators, while commercial and NPR stations are allowed to. Please grant low power community radio the same privilege. Also, I support your own study to eliminate third adjacent channel spacing because the requirement is no longer needed with current technological capabilities. Thank you for your efforts to support and strengthen the viability of existing and future community radio/low power stations. Sincerely, Margaret E. Squires