

I own and operate a 1kw AM radio station in Cairo. Our station went on the air in 1949 when there were very few radio stations in the U.S. and, therefore, little interference. Since that time, radio has exploded and we have noticed that our signal is no longer the clear voice of our community that it was at one time. Plus, with the popularity of FM radio, we are now viewed by many of the citizens in the community as a 'dinosaur' because we are found on the 'out of date' AM band. I think that we offer a unique local flavor in the sea of corporate, big group radio that now dominates the spectrum. All we need is the ability to compete on a more level playing field. I feel that if we were able to provide our programming on a limited power FM channel that could only be heard in a 25-mile radius of our city of license, we could bring a real community station, owned and operated by people who live in our hometown, to thousands of people who will never switch over to AM. Please consider allowing FM translators for small stations like ours in order for local, community to not only survive, but to thrive.

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