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Lee Terry  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
2nd District, Nebraska

563

June 5, 2014

Chairman Tom Wheeler  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St SW  
Washington, DC 20536

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

I urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to come to a prompt resolution on a Low-Power FM application for North Omaha, Nebraska, as well as “mutually exclusive” applications across the country. I authored the legislation that enabled several new LPFM stations in Omaha and across the nation. I have recently learned that the application process has slowed down significantly.

One party—which has filed 245 applications for separate LPFM licenses—has no presence or ties to the Omaha area, but is mutually exclusive with a constituent who has applied for the same frequency. Now, I understand that fourteen of this party’s applications have recently been dismissed due to technicalities. However, because this applicant applied for the same frequency as my constituent, it appears that the earliest the issue can be resolved is 2015.

Organizations are free to apply for LPFM licenses so long as they meet certain criteria. But I believe that any applicant doing so for the purpose of extracting settlement fees or to delay other applicants is subverting the intent of the Local Community Radio Act.

My colleagues and I did not write this law to give applicants the opportunity to arbitrage a license. The law was written so that communities like North Omaha have a true local voice. The people from this community deserve a fair shot at an LPFM station, and right now they’re experiencing delays to no fault of their own. I hope the FCC will do everything in its power to resolve this issue as quickly as possible.

Thank you, as always, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lee Terry".  
Lee Terry  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS