

# **Attachment A**

## **Previous Correspondence**



Dear Ferndale Resident,

In an effort to help you eliminate or lessen radio frequency interference (rfi) on your telephone, KCCF Radio is providing one (1) free telephone filter per household. This filter installs easily between your wall jack and your telephone. In order to achieve the best results, connect the filter as close to the telephone as possible. Additional filters may be purchased from us at \$6.00 per filter.

For more information about solving rfi-related problems, please refer to the following FCC web pages:

- 1.) <http://www.fcc.gov/cib/Publications/phone.html>
- 2.) <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/Publications/tvibook.html>

The information below is printed from the FCC's web site (<http://www.fcc.gov/eb/Publications/tiabuln.html>):

### **RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE**

#### **WHAT IS IT? WHAT CAUSES IT? WHO'S RESPONSIBLE? HOW TO FIX IT.**

Radio frequency energy comes primarily from radio and TV stations, amateur (ham) and citizens band radios, cordless and cellular telephones, and other devices that use radio transmitters. This radio frequency energy can interfere with the normal operation of a telephone. It may cause you to hear radio stations or annoying sounds over your telephone. It is normal for some radio frequency energy to be present on the telephone company outside wiring even though you may not hear anything in your telephone receiver. However, in unusual cases, audible interference present on the telephone company's wiring must be referred to the telephone company for correction. You should be aware that if you call the telephone company and request a special inspection and the trouble is found in your wiring or telephone, the telephone company may charge you for a service call.

#### **CONTACTING TELEPHONE MANUFACTURERS**

You may wish to contact the manufacturer of your telephone directly. The manufacturer's telephone number can usually be found in the user's manual provided with the telephone or, in some cases, on the bottom of the telephone. Ask if the manufacturer provides a filter to solve your problem or has any other solution to eliminate the radio interference problem; also ask the manufacturer as to whether or not it charges for its services. If you are unable to contact the manufacturer, most interference problems can be solved by performing the following three steps:

#### **STEP 1: DETERMINING THE SOURCE OF THE INTERFERENCE**

By carefully listening on the telephone handset, you may be able to identify the source of the interference. The following list can help in this step.

##### **Interference Source Characteristics:**

- Amateur and Citizens Band Radio - Speech switches on and off and may be garbled.
- AM Radio - Music, speech
- TV, FM Radio - Garbled music and speech
- Cordless Telephone - Speech

If an amateur or citizens band radio transmitter is causing interference, the transmitter is probably located within a few blocks of your house. The transmitters may be identified by the outdoor antenna that they use. Most operators will be pleased to work with you towards a solution. If you are experiencing interference from a radio or TV station, the station is probably operating within the law (rules are set forth by the Federal Communications Commission). The radio or TV station owners may be required to help you solve your interference problem depending, in part, on how far you live from the station. If the radio or TV station is not required to solve your interference problem, then it is your responsibility and this guide is intended to help you. Other possible sources of interference include noise generated by fluorescent lights, light dimmers, and motors. Determine if the noise occurs only when such a device is turned on.

#### **STEP 2: DETERMINING WHERE THE INTERFERENCE IS BEING PICKED UP**

**HERITAGE 1550 am**

P.O. Box 847 FERNDALE, WA 98248 PHONE 360\*384\*5117 FAX 360\*380\*4202 TOLL FREE 888\*416\*1550

Radio interference usually enters your telephone through one or more of the following paths:

the coiled handset cord of your telephone; line cord of your telephone; the telephone set; other telephone equipment; internal telephone wiring in your house; external wiring to your house.

A) To check the coiled handset cord, bundle the cord in your hand while listening to the telephone. Continue to listen to the telephone while stretching the handset cord out. If the interference is noticeably louder with the cord stretched out, the cord is acting like a radio antenna. Also, try moving around the room with the handset cord stretched out. Avoid using cords longer than 10 feet if you are experiencing interference problems.

B) Repeat the test described in Step 2-A on the line cord, the cord connecting the telephone to the wall jack. (Does not apply to wall telephones which have no line cord.)

C) If you have a neighbor whose telephone operates normally, you may wish to consider borrowing your neighbor's telephone to see if it corrects your problem when plugged into your telephone jack. If the interference disappears, then your telephone may be too sensitive to the interference. Go to Step 3.

D) To check the effect of other telephone equipment connected to your telephone line, such as answering machines, FAX machines, or computer modems, listen on the affected telephone equipment one by one. (Do not disconnect an alarm system. This will send a false alarm that may cause you to be fined. Notify the alarm company if you suspect a problem in its equipment.) If the problem disappears when a given device is disconnected, then the source of the radio interference problem is associated with the device just taken off the line.

E) To check the telephone wiring in the house, try plugging the telephone into different jacks in the house (if you have more than one jack). If the house wiring is picking up the interference, the noise level that you hear at each jack may vary.

F) If the previous checks do not determine where the interference is being picked up, it may be occurring on the external wiring.

### STEP 3: SOLVING THE PROBLEM

If, in Step 2, you have identified the handset cord, telephone line cord wiring, or your telephone as the point of the interference, you may need to use a radio frequency interference filter (described below) or change your telephone to eliminate the interference. (See Step 2C.) The application of a radio frequency interference filter is often an effective solution to correcting some interference problems. The following list gives examples of filters to use to eliminate the problem. They can all be easily installed on your telephone wiring without the use of tools.

#### List of Interference Sources and filters to use:

AM, CB, and Amateur:

AT&T Z100B1 (Single-line telephone), or AT&T Z200A (4-line telephone)

Citizens Band Radio:

Northern Telecom CB suppressor: NTOCO3CA (Single-line telephone), or NT0B14AA (2-line telephone)

Amateur Radio:

Snap-On Filter Choke: Radio Shack model 273-104

Check the supplier's return policy before you purchase any device to eliminate interference. Purchase the appropriate filters from telephone stores or local electronics stores, or contact the filter manufacturers directly. When using filters, carefully follow the directions for proper installation. Following are some additional hints:

- Place filters on all equipment identified in Step 2.
- For maximum effectiveness, place a telephone line cord filter next to the telephone, not at the wall jack.
- If one filter works, but some interference is still present, try two filters.

For FM and TV station interference, filtering may not correct the problem; use the shortest practical handset cord and avoid extending it. You may have to change your telephone. (See Step 2C.)

### CORDLESS TELEPHONES

Cordless telephones are a special case as both the handset and the base module are low-powered radio stations, sending and receiving your telephone call as radio signals. Cordless telephones can pick up interference from a neighboring cordless telephone as well as from other sources. Changing the operating (channel) frequency can often resolve the problem. Check your owners manual to see if your cordless telephone has more than one channel and includes instructions on how to change channels or contact your dealer.

If the interference to your cordless telephone is coming over the telephone wiring, apply a filter as you would for a corded telephone.

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## Empire Telephone, Inc.

*Specializing in Business Telephone Systems • Sales • Service • Rentals • Payphones • Vended & Sold*

September 13, 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Seattle Field Office  
11410 N. E. 122nd Way  
Kirkland, WA, 98034-6927

TO: Engineer in Charge

For the past 3 years we have been trying to solve an interference problem of AM radio signal interference being picked up on telephones at 5748 Sterling Ave., Ferndale. The interference is coming from Radio Station KNTR, 5538 Imhoff Rd., Ferndale, approximately 3/4 mile away. The AM station is being picked up on the upstairs office telephones and the FAX machine. It is so strong most of the time that it is very hard to hear the party you are trying to talk to.

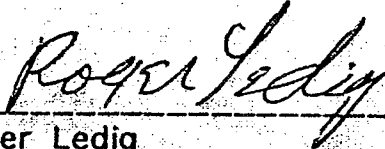
I have worked with their old engineer, Ron Cowell 3-4 times and have tried every filter he could come up with no luck. Filters have been tried at the entrance cable by GTE, at the wall outlets, at the back of the telephones, and I have tried other single line telephones as well as the multi-line Starplus office telephone system installed there. They all have the same problem. I have tried working with the new engineer at KNTR, but he takes the same position as the radio station itself, "It is not there problem."

P.O. Box 2968 Ferndale WA 98248 • (360) 380-2000

I have spoken to many other business people around town over the last couple years and most of them have had the same problems with interference in one way or another they not been able to solve.

Could you please look into this problem for us and if necessary do an inspection of the station to see if there is anything that can be done.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger Ledig". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Roger Ledig

Empire Telephone, Inc. • P.O. Box 2968 Ferndale, WA. 98248 • (360) 380-2000



## Empire Telephone, Inc.

*Specializing in Business Telephone Systems • Sales • Service • Rentals • Payphones • Vended & Sold*

June 5, 2002

Federal Communications Commission  
Seattle Field Office  
11410 N. E. 122nd Way  
Kirkland, WA, 98034-6927

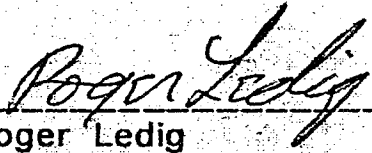
TO: Engineer in Charge

On September 13, 1997 I sent the attached letter to you regarding the high level RF interference being generated by the local radio station in Ferndale, now KCCS. This high RF level is picked up by most of the telephones in one way or another in the downtown and surrounding areas. We receive many calls each month for help with this interference and we have not been able to do much with most of the problems. The station has continuously taken the "It's not our problem" attitude and with more and more electronic telephones, fax machines and computer equipment using the lines, a clean clear signal is imperative. The local businesses can not continue to operate with this interference. Is there anything you can do about this? Do we as a town full of businesses that have run out of patients have to petition the FCC to have this station shut down as a public nuisance? How do we go about submitting a petition to the FCC license review board to deny their renewal of their license when it comes up for renewal the next time?

P.O. Box 2968 Ferndale, WA. 98248 • (360) 380-2000

No AM station needs 50,000 watts to reach the residents of this county. If their power were at a reasonable level we would not have this problem. If their primary market is the Vancouver, B.C. Canada area as they say it is they should move the station to that area and would not need to have an entire city thoroughly fed up with them.

Thank you,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger Ledig

CC: Kelli Linville - (D) 42<sup>nd</sup> Dist. Representative  
CC: Doug Ericksen - (R) 42<sup>nd</sup> Dist. Representative  
CC: Pete Kremen - Whatcom County Executive  
CC: Senator Georgia Gardner

Empire Telephone, Inc. • P.O. Box 2968 Ferndale, WA. 98248 • (360) 380-2000

## Follow Up:

June 12<sup>th</sup> - Received letter from Senator Gloria Gardner. Said she was referring this on to Senators Murry and Cantwell and Congressman Rick Larson.

June 17<sup>th</sup> - Received a call from the FCC field engineer in Seattle saying he was going to initiate an inspection of the station in beginning his investigation.

June 18<sup>th</sup> - Spoke with Andy Anderson (360-733-4500) of Congressman Rick Larsons office. He wanted a little more information on the matter and said he would be contacting the FCC field office in Seattle and also be referring it to the FCC Broadcast Bureau in Washington DC.

June 19<sup>th</sup> - Received letter from Representative Rick Larson. Re: Copy of letter he sent to the FCC asking that the matter be looked into.





**Olympia Office:**  
424 John A. Cherberg Building  
PO Box 40442  
Olympia, WA 98504-0442  
(360) 786-7682  
FAX: (360) 786-1999  
e-mail: gardner\_ge@leg.wa.gov  
Legislative Hotline: 1-800-562-6000

## Washington State Senate

**Senator Georgia Gardner**  
42nd Legislative District  
State & Local Government, Chair

**District Office:**  
PO Box 3349  
Blaine, WA 98231-3349  
(360) 332-8118  
FAX: (360) 332-5601  
TTY: 1-800-635-9993

June 11, 2002

Roger Ledig  
P.O. Box 2968  
Ferndale, Washington 98248

Dear Mr. Ledig,

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter to the Federal Communications Commission regarding interference from KCCS radio. I am not able to help you directly since this is a federal issue, but I'm very interested in the outcome.

I sending a copy of the letter addressed to me and the September 13, 1997 to our federal representatives Senators Murray and Cantwell and Congressman Rick Larsen and I am asking for their intervention. If you have other correspondence to the FCC would you send me a copy?

Please keep me apprised of your progress and thank you again for the information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Georgia".

Senator Georgia Gardner

GG/pm



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**Committees:** State & Local Government, Chair • Transportation, Vice Chair • Labor, Commerce & Financial Institutions

♻ Recycled



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104 WEST MAGNOLIA, SUITE 303  
BELLINGHAM, WA 98225  
(360) 733-4500

2330 WETMORE AVENUE, SUITE 9E  
EVERETT, WA 98201  
(425) 252-3188

E-Mail: Rick.Larsen@mail.house.gov  
http://www.house.gov/larsen

RICK LARSEN  
2ND DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-4702

COMMITTEES:  
TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

AGRICULTURE

ARMED SERVICES

June 18, 2002

Office of Legislative & Intergovernmental Affairs  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Room 8-C453  
Washington, D.C. 20554

By fax

Attn: Director:

Attached please find a copy of a letter from a telephone specialist complaining about interference caused by a Ferndale, Washington radio station, KCCS. The letter, from Roger Ledig, was sent to the FCC field office in Seattle, but was forwarded to me by State Sen. Georgia Gardner.

Mr. Ledig subsequently telephoned my District Office to underscore his complaint that telephone service within the Ferndale area is adversely affected by the station's signal. Mr. Ledig said this is the latest in a number of complaints about the station, but that no remedial action by the FCC has ever been taken.

In the past, Mr. Ledig said that the station would offer free "filters" which could improve telephone voice communication. But now, with increased use of telephone lines for data transmission, the interference problem has taken on a new urgency. Mr. Ledig says that mundane commercial uses, such as retail credit card processing by Ferndale merchants, have been dramatically slowed compared to stores elsewhere in the county.

In addition, the station now does not provide filters, asserting to those who complain that the problem is beyond their control. Mr. Ledig also points out that as the station is being sold, and the programming changed to appeal to the East Indian population of Vancouver, Canada, Ferndale residents and businesses feel the station will offer virtually nothing in the way of community convenience, interest and necessity.

Your timely review of this situation will be appreciated. Please respond to my Bellingham District Office.

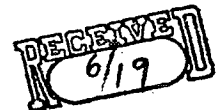
Sincerely,

*Rick Larsen*  
Member of Congress

/rha

cc: Roger Ledig

State Sen. Georgia Gardner



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 1, 2002

EB-TPSD-KM  
CN 0202129

The Honorable Rick Larsen  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
104 West Magnolia  
Suite 303  
Bellingham, Washington 98225

Dear Congressman Larsen:

Thank you for your correspondence dated June 18, 2002, on behalf of Mr. Roger Ledig of Empire Telephone, Inc., in Ferndale, Washington. Mr. Ledig contacted your office concerning telephone interference experienced by the residents of Ferndale, allegedly caused by the transmissions from radio station KCCF(AM).

We have forwarded Mr. Ledig's complaint to the Commission's Seattle Office for review. Although the Seattle Office has no record of Mr. Ledig's 1997 correspondence, staff is aware of the interference problem and inspected KCCF(AM) and conducted electronic field measurements in 2000 and 2001. On both occasions, the Seattle Office staff determined that KCCF(AM) was operating in compliance with the Commission's rules. In addition, our records indicate that the station has contacted several complainants to provide filtering devices and other assistance to resolve the interference problem.

It is important to note that the existence of interference to telephones and other electronic equipment is not in and of itself an indication that a radio transmitter operator is violating any FCC rules. Televisions, telephones and other home electronic equipment sometimes respond to the signals of properly operating CB or amateur radio stations. In our experience, protecting home electronics with manufacturer-recommended radio frequency protection devices eliminates a significant percentage of interference problems. For your review, and to provide Mr. Ledig with additional information, we have enclosed a copy of the Commission's consumer fact sheet that outlines remedies for telephone interference.

In his correspondence, Mr. Ledig also expressed concern that KCCF(AM)'s authorized operating power enables the station to broadcast to a Canadian market. Mr. Ledig believes that the station is serving the public interest of the citizens in Vancouver, B.C. Canada, while causing significant interference to the residents of Ferndale. Further, Mr. Ledig expressed an interest in filing a petition against KCCF(AM)'s license renewal.

The Honorable Rick Larsen

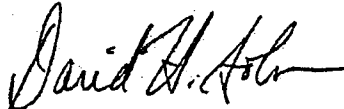
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As previously explained, telephone interference is not necessarily indicative of a violation of the Commission's rules. KCCF(AM)'s current daytime operating power of 50,000 watts is in accordance with the station's license and complies with the Commission's technical rules for AM broadcast stations. The Commission's AM broadcast rules require the station to provide service to its city of license, but do not preclude the station's signal from also reaching other markets.

If Mr. Ledig wishes to file a petition to deny KCCF(AM)'s license renewal, he may be interested to learn that the station's license expires February 1, 2006. Pursuant to the Commission's rules, a petition to deny a license renewal application must be filed with the Commission by the end of the first business day of the last full calendar month of the expiring license term. (See 47 C.F.R. §§ 73.3516(e) and 73.3584(a).)

Thank you for your interest in this matter. If you require additional information or assistance, please contact this office at (202) 418-7450.

Sincerely,



David H. Solomon  
Chief, Enforcement Bureau

Enclosure

KCCF AM RADIO STATION  
FERNDAL, WA 98248

21 FEB 2001

AFTER LETTER SENT TO FCC 3 FEB 2001 GOT PHONE CALL FROM  
MANAGER OF STATION REGARDING MY INTERFERENCE PROBLEM.

CALL FROM MATT MILLER	STATION BOUGHT MARCH 98
PEARL BROADCAST	NEW RF HARRIS TRANSMITTER NOV 98
	COST 200,000 (TECH SAID MAR 98)
ANAHEIM, CALIF	NEW CALL SIGN KCCF FROM OLD KNTR
CEL 714-448-9971	KCCF TELEPHONE 384-5117 (NOV 98)

RADIO ENGINEER: DAVID HARRIS  
650-7703 WESTERN WASH UNIV  
733-5960 HOME

MATT MILLER SAID HE WOULD BE CALLING ME NEXT FEW DAYS.  
HAD TWO CONTACTS 1ST 25 FEB 01 10:00 AM, 2ND 1 MAR 01 8:30 AM  
THE FCC ENGINEER I SENT LETTER TO:

DENNIS ANDERSON	GOT CALL FROM MIKE ROTHE
11410 NE 122ND WAY	FCC SUN 5PM WAS NOT HOME
KIRTLAND, WA 98034	NO NUMBER TO CALL BACK. HE
	SAID HE WOULD CALL BACK 29
	FEB 01, NOT HEARD BACK.

HE MADE A TRIP UP HERE NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE EITHER 15 OR 16 LAST  
WEEK OR TUESDAY 20 FEB 2001. MEASUREMENT TAKEN AT MY HOUSE  
PER 1 MVOLT PER METER THEY FOUND I HAD A 11 MVOLT SIGNAL PER  
METER SCALE. THE STATION HAD MADE A SIGNAL CHANGE DIRECTION  
FROM NORTHWEST TO STRAIGHT NORTH. WAS MADE JUNE 2000. THIS  
WAS TIME MY PROBLEM STARTED. MR HARRIS CHECKING ON THIS, WITH  
INFO ON WHEN STATION WENT 50,000 WATTS, AND DATA ON TRANSMITTER  
OLD RCA TUBE TYPE AND THE NEW RF HARRIS MODEL DX50 MODEL IN  
USE 50,000 WATTS.

STATION ON 1550KHZ TRANSMITS 50,000 WATTS DAYTIME, AND 10,000  
NIGHTIME COMPUTER CONTROLLED. READINGS TAKEN 1 MAR 01 AT HOME  
FRONT OF HOUSE 500 TO 700MV PER METER. AT TOWER BACK YARD  
11MV PER METER READING, THIS IS TRANSMITTER MAIN FREQUENCY OF  
1550KHZ AT 50,000 WATTS DAYTIME.

OPERATORS AT STATION ANDY STRUIKSMA KB7PCR  
CHUCK LEE 384-6798

ALOT OF INTERFERENCE PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN GENERATED FROM THIS  
STATION. POOR LOCATION FOR THIS AMOUNT OF RF, SHOULD BE  
OUT FURTHER TO THE WEST, AND NOT FIRING THE SIGNAL INTO  
HILL UP VISTA DRIVE. THIS AMOUNT OF RF COULD BE DETRIMENTAL  
TO EVERYONE HEALTH. ALSO NEW HOUSING AREA OFF OF MT VIEW  
DRIVE CALLED HOMESTEAD HOMES IN CORRELL PARK. THIS IS ONLY  
FEW HUNDRED YARDS FROM THE TRANSMITTER SITE. THIS TRANSMITTER  
NEEDS TO BE MOVED OUT WEST TO THE FLAT LANDS AWAY FROM FERNDAL.  
THE STUDIO COULD REMAIN WHERE IT IS.

9 MAR 2001

PAGE 2

## RE COMPLAINT

I GOT A E-MAIL TODAY FROM A DAVID HARRIS LETTER ATTACHED. HE IS THE ENGINEER FOR THE RADIO STATION. HE ALSO WORKS FOR WWU COLLEGE. HE HAS BEEN OUT TO THE HOUSE TWICE NOW, AND TAKEN READINGS. HE FEELS THE PROBLEM IS MINE, BECAUSE MY TOWER IS HOT WITH HIS RF FROM RADIO STATION. I'VE LIVED HERE FROM MAY 1972 UNTILL 1999, WHEN MY TROUBLE STARTED. THE MAJOR CHANGE WAS THEIR OLD TUBE TRANSMITTER BURNT UP AND THEY GOT THE NEW RF HARRIS MODEL DX50 TYPE AND WAS INSTALLED LATE 98. I KEEP TELLING SOME CHANGE WAS MADE ON HIS END, OR THE NEW TRANSMITTER IS NOT MEETING SPECIFICATIONS. HE DOES NOT AGREE, AS YOU CAN SEE READING HIS E-MAIL LETTER.

THIS RADIO STATION IS BUILT IN A POOR LOCATION FOR THE AMOUNT OF RF 50,000 WATTS. IT SHOULD BE FURTHER OUT TO THE WEST, AND NOT FIRING THRU THE TOWN UP VISTA DRIVE. A AMATEUR FRIEND OF MINE MR DAVE MORGAN W7CLU DECEASED WHO LIVED AT 2274 HAWTHORNE ST HAD A TOWER AND ANTENNA ARRAY. HIS FRIENDS WHO WORKED ON HIS TOWER USED TO GET RF BURNS ON THEIR FINGERS FROM THIS AM RADIO STATION. HE HAD COMPLAINTS AGAINST THIS STATION FROM 92 THRU 98, BECAUSE HE COULD NOT USE HIS AMATEUR RADIO EQUIPMENT. THIS COULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO EVERYONE HEALTH, WITH METAL TYPE CLOTHESLINES, FENCES IN THE AREA. ALSO THIS NEW HOUSING AREA OFF OF MT VIEW DRIVE CALLED HOMESTEAD HOMES IN CORRELL PARK. THIS IS ONLY A FEW HUNDRED YARDS FROM THE TRANSMITTING ANTENNAS.

I BELEIVE THE CITY NEEDS TO DIRECT ALL THEIR EFFORT OF COMPLAINTS TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE MR PETE KREMEN, US SENATE PATTY MURRAY, MARIA CANTWELL, US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE RICK LARSON. THIS TRANSMIITER NEEDS TO BE MOVED OUT WEST TO THE FLAT LANDS AWAY FROM FERNDAL. WITH TOTAL COMMUNITY EFFORT THIS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED.

IF THIS ISSUE IS A TOPIC AT ONE OF YOUR COUNCIL MEETING, AND NEED A INPUT LET ME KNOW.

JAMES C. KAUFMAN

MAILING ADDRESS  
JAMES C. KAUFMAN  
5873 MADRONA DRIVE  
FERNDAL, WA 98248  
360-384-1358

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
ENGINEER IN CHARGE  
DENNIS ANDERSON  
11410 NE 122ND WAY  
KIRTLAND, WA 98034

22 FEB 2001

DEAR SIR:

I'M WRITING YOU AGAIN IN REGARDS TO THE INTERFERENCE REPORT I SENT YOU BACK ON 3 FEB 2001. THIS WAS IN REGARDS TO THE AM RADIO STATION KCCF HERE IN FERNDAL ON 1550KHZ.

I GOT A CALL YESTERDAY FROM THE STATION MANAGER, FROM PEARL BROADCAST, ANAHEIM, CALIF. HE SAID THAT YOU HAD BEEN IN THE AREA AND MADE MEASUREMENTS FROM MY HOME. I HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF YOU BEING HERE, AND HAD REQUESTED YOU TO CONTACT ME IN MY LAST LETTER.?

MY REQUEST FROM YOU IS I WANT A COPY OF THE CASE # AND THE RESULTS OF YOUR TEST REPORT.

MR MATT MILLER SAID HE WAS CONTACTED BY SOMEONE FROM THE FCC AND TOLD THEIR STATION WAS TOO HOT OF RF AT MY LOCATION. I FOUND OUT FROM MR MILLER, THAT THEIR BEAM PATTERN USED TO BE OUT NW DIRECTION FROM TOWN, AND LAST JUNE 2000 THEIR BEAM PATTERN WAS CHANGED TO DUE NORTH DIRECTION. FROM THAT TIME ON MY TROUBLE STARTED, AND STILL UNABLE TO TUNE ANY HF BANDS 2 TO 30MHZ ON THE BARKER-WILLIAMSON FOLDED DIPOLE ANTENNA.

I WAS CONTACTED BY A MR DAVID HARRIS, ENGINEER FOR THE KCCF STATION. HE WILL BE HERE AT THE HOUSE 10:00 AM SUNDAY FEB 25, 2001 TO TAKE SOME MEASUREMENTS.

I WOULD APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH TO HEAR FROM YOU ON THIS MATTER, AND VERY SORRY WE DID NOT MAKE CONTACT BEFORE.

*James C. Kaufman*  
JAMES C. KAUFMAN

MAILING ADDRESS  
JAMES C. KAUFMAN  
5873 MADRONA DRIVE  
FERNDAL, WA 98248  
TEL 360-384-1358

Date: Thu, 1 Mar 2001 14:00:06 -0800 (PST)  
 From: F. David Harris <fdh@cc.wvu.edu> *work 650-7703 Home 733-5960*  
 To: Matt Miller <Matt@lsm.org> *714-448-9971 cel phone*  
 Cc: "Mike Rothe @ FCC" <mrothe@fcc.gov>, Andrew Struiksma <kccf@gte.net>, grad\_engineering@ieee.org  
 Subject: Re: James Kaufman RF complaint

Matt:

I took field strength readings in Kaufman's neighborhood and in his back yard, next to his radio antenna mast. Later on I plotted his location on a USGS map so that I could correlate the readings I took with our pattern.

Kaufman's house is 1.4 km from the station on the 353 degree radial. The neighborhood readings are in the vicinity of 1000 mV/m, which are in the correct ballpark, but a bit on the low side. In the vicinity of Kaufman's house, re-radiation from his tower has a direct impact on the FS measurements. Right next to his tower, you can measure a field of over 10 volts per meter. There, of course, is the source of his problem. His radio tower and/or the antennas it supports is absorbing energy from KCCF's field, and re-radiating it. In some directions the re-radiation subtracts from KCCF's field, and in other directions it adds. At any substantial distance from his tower, the effect is probably negligible, but very close to his tower, where his ham antennas are located, the effect is very pronounced.

Kaufman recently installed a very large wire antenna with its center supported by the tower. Its sides slope down, and it is broadside to KCCF's antenna. This was installed at the same time that his RFI problem became serious. Unfortunately, he thinks (based on what you told him) that we changed our pattern at that time which caused his problem. I tried to explain that our pattern has been the same since 1989, but he does not believe that. The anomaly at our 176.5 degree monitoring point was partially caused by tower 4 not floating, but also by that illegal GTE cell tower which, by the way, has not been resolved. I have a call in to Hatfield and Dawson to find out the status of that project. I plan to do some field intensity readings on many of our radials over the next several weeks (in addition to our monitoring points) to insure that our pattern is substantially correct.

I believe that if Kaufman's new antenna was removed, he would not have the re-radiation problem that he does have now. KCCF's field strength in his neighborhood has not changed since the station's power went to 50 kW. My only indication of what Mike Rothe told you is what is in your original e-mail to me. KCCF's field strength at Kaufman's house does not exceed our licensed value. The large field strength measured next to his radio tower is because of re-radiation from that structure. That problem, it seems to me, is squarely Mr. Kaufman's, not KCCF's.

I will continue to work with Mr. Kaufman to the degree he will allow. If he insists on keeping the large wire antenna, the only real suggestion I



have is for him to install traps at the equipment end of his antenna feedline. Parallel traps in series with his feedline and series traps to ground.

Mr. Kaufman does not have e-mail, so I will mail him a copy of this e-mail message.

F. David Harris

12 MARCH 2001

COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
MR PETE KREMEN  
311 GRAND AVE, SUITE 108  
BELLINGHAM, WA 98225

RADIO STATION RF COMPLAINT

THE FOLLOWING LETTERS AND CHARTS ARE ATTACHED FOR YOUR REVIEW AND ANY ACTION THE COUNTY MIGHT CONSIDER. BECAUSE OF THE SERIOUSNESS AND HEALTH OF THE CITIZENS OF FERNDAL BEING RF BY 50,000 WATTS RELIGION AM RADIO STATION KCCF. IT IS A HAZARD TO THE WELL BEING OF EVERYONE LIVING HERE.

I BELEIVE STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO FORCE THE STATION OWNERS TO MOVE THE TRANSMITTER SITE OUT WEST OF TOWN SOME DISTANCE ON THE FLAT LANDS. FERNDAL IS GROWING AND DON'T NEED THIS STATION CLOSE BY AS SIGNAL IS BEING BEAMED NORTH INTO CANADA.

COPIES OF THIS REPORT, LETTERS AND CHARTS BEING SENT TO

SENATOR PATTY MURRAY  
SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL  
US HOUSE REP RICK LARSEN

THE HONORABLE MICHAEL POWELL  
CHAIRMAN  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
445 12TH STREET, SW  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

MAYOR OF FERNDAL  
CAROLYN JENSEN

JAMES C. KAUFMAN

MAILING ADDRESS:  
5873 MADRONA DRIVE  
FERNDAL, WA 98248

14 MARCH 2001

THE HONORABLE MICHAEL POWELL CHAIRMAN  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
445 12TH STREET, SW  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

## RF COMPLAINT

MY NAME IS JAMES C. KAUFMAN AND I LIVE AT 5873 MADRONA DRIVE FERNDAL, WA 98248. MY PHONE NUMBER IS 360-384-1358. I HOLD A COMMERCIAL TELEPHONE LICENCE WITH RADAR ENDORSEMENT, ALSO HOLD A EXTRA AMATEUR CALL OF W7UMH.

MY REASON FOR CONTACTING YOU, IS IN REGARDS TO THE HIGH POWER AM RELIGION STATION ON 1550KHZ. THEY MOVED INTO FERNDAL AREA 1989 WITH 1000 WATTS FROM BELLINGHAM, WA. ITS CALL SIGN THEN WAS KNTR, ADDRESS IS 5538 IMHOFF ROAD FERNDAL, WA 98248. PHONE NUMBER IS 360-384-5117. WITH POLITICAL PULL, THEY KEEP INCREASING THE POWER LEVEL UNTILL THEY REACHED THE 50,000 WATT LEVEL DAYTIME, AND 10,000 WATTS AT NIGHT. THIS AMOUNT OF POWER IS NOT NEEDED FOR COVERAGE. THIS HIGH POWER OVER THE YEARS HAS GOTTEN INTO TELEPHONES COMPUTERS, CHURCH & SCHOOLS PA SYSTEMS, AND STEREO SYSTEMS.

I MOVED INTO MY PRESENT HOUSE IN 1972, AND WAS ABLE TO OPERATE WITH NO PROBLEMS UNTILL 1999. I'M USING COLLINS S-LINE EQUIPMENT, AND A BARKER-WILLIAMSON FOLDED DIPOLE WITH A 600 OHM 12 TO 1 BALUN TO KEEP RF OFF THE COAXIAL CABLE. I CAN WORK LOW BAND 75/80 METER BAND AFTER THEY REDUCE POWER TO 10,000 WATTS AT NIGHT. DURING DAYTIME THE 50,000 WATTS MAKES ALL HIGHER BANDS USELESS, AS IT PREVENTS TUNING AND HIGH VSWR CONDITION

I LIVE ABOUT 1 AIRLINE MILE NORTH FROM THE RADIO STATION. THEY BEAM THEIR SIGNAL NORTH RIGHT THRU MY TOWER. IT IS 70 FT IN THE AIR. THE SIGNAL FROM THE STATION GIVES ME 11 VOLT OF SIGNAL MEASURED WITH A FIELD STRENGTH AT THE BASE OF MY TOWER

SEVERAL AMATEURS HAVE GOTTEN RF BURNS WORKING ON ANTENNAS DURING DAYTIME OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS. THIS COULD ALSO BE A HAZARD FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE STEEL FENCES, OR METAL CLOTHESLINES.

THE OLD TRANSMITTER WAS A RCA MODEL DA-2. I HEARD IT BURNT UP AND WAS A TUBE TYPE. IT WAS REPLACED WITH A RF HARRIS MODEL HX 50 TYPE SOLID STATE. I HAVE MY DOUBTS OF THE RF HARRIS HX50 SPECIFICATION.S. MY TROUBLE STARTED SHORTLY AFTER. MY OLD BW FOLDED DIPOLE HAD BEEN IN SERVICE 17 YEARS. I REPLACED WITH A NEW SAME TYPE SPRING OF 2000, THIS DID NOT RESOLVE MY PROBLEM. A FRIEND OF MINE WHO LIVES 9 MILES NORTHEAST OF THIS STATION WITH HIS SPECTRUM ANALYZER WAS AMAZED OF THE 2ND THRU 6TH ORDER

STRENGTH OF THIS STATION RF SIGNAL. HE LIVES NEAR THE BOB HALL ROAD. THE STATION ENGINEER MR DAVID HARRIS SAYS, THEY ARE 85DB DOWN, WHICH IS QUESTIONABLE. THE BOB HALL ROAD RUNS BACK TO THE LOOMIS TRAIL ROAD. THIS IS WHERE THE NOW REMOTE FCC MONITORING STATION IS LOCATED. ACCORDING TO THE CHARTS ATTACHED SHOWS A NULL IN THIS AREA, FOR FCC PROTECTION.

I WOULD APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH HAVING YOU LOOK INTO THIS MATTER. EITHER A POWER LEVEL CHANGE, OR RELOCATION OUT TO THE WEST PART OF FERNDALE, AND GIVE ALL CITIZENS A BREAK FROM ALL OF THIS RF HAZARDS.

THE NEW FCC RULE THAT WENT INTO EFFECT DURING 1998 STATED THAT ALL AMATEURS STATIONS MUST NOT EXCEED THE MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE LIMITS FOR THEIR TRANSMITTER OPERATION (MPE) ARE BOTH FREQUENCY AND POWER-DEPENDENT. YET THIS HIGH POWER AM RADIO RELIGION STATION CAN OPERATE 50,000 WATTS JUST BELOW THE 160 METER AMATEUR BAND, WHY.?

THANK YOU

*James C. Kaufman*  
JAMES C. KAUFMAN

ADDRESS:  
5873 MADRONA DRIVE  
FERNDALE, WA 98248  
TEL 360-384-1358



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

APR 19 2001

CN0101004

The Honorable Rick Larsen  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
104 W. Magnolia  
Room 303  
Bellingham, WA 98225

Dear Congressman Larsen:

Thank you for your inquiry on behalf of your constituent James C. Kaufman. Mr. Kaufman is concerned about the proximity of radio station KCCF(AM)'s antenna to his neighborhood due to interference and safety issues.

As Mr. Kaufman notes, KCCF has been licensed to operate for the past 5 ½ years from a location he describes as just outside the Ferndale, Washington city limits. Mr. Kaufman indicates that he first experienced problems from KCCF's operations in 1999, and believes that KCCF should relocate its transmitter. Mr. Kaufman is an amateur radio station operator, and contends that KCCF's operations have also caused interference problems for telephones, computers, church school PA systems, and other electronic systems.

We first wish to reassure Mr. Kaufman with respect to his concerns about exposure to radiofrequency (RF) radiation. Our RF guidelines are specifically designed to protect the public health with a wide margin of safety. These limits were recommended by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements and subsequently adopted by the American National Standards Institute. These standards have been endorsed at the federal level by the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the Food and Drug Administration. After a period for public comment with responses from such agencies as well as from a broad spectrum of industry, trade associations, and private citizens, the Commission adopted the RF standards in 1997. These standards were upheld by the Federal Court of Appeals for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit last year.


The placement of broadcast towers in or near residential neighborhoods is not against our rules. The Commission recognizes that local zoning authorities are best situated to resolve land use questions. The interference he describes to household electrical appliances is called "blanketing" interference, and occurs when people reside close to a radio station's transmitting antenna. Stations are financially responsible for resolving such complaints only if the complaint is received during the first year of operations, which is not the case in Mr. Kaufman's situation. Nevertheless, we encourage the parties affected by such problems to contact the stations involved and similarly encourage the broadcasters involved to cooperate and provide the appropriate technical assistance.

The Honorable Rick Larsen

2.

It is our understanding from speaking with the FCC's Seattle field office that KCCF commenced the installation of filters at Mr. Kaufman's residence to resolve the problems described in his correspondence with your office and that Mr. Kaufman is satisfied to date with the station's efforts.

Sincerely,

  
Roy J. Stewart  
Chief, Mass Media Bureau

1529 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-2605

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
104 WEST MAGNOLIA, SUITE 300  
BELLINGHAM, WA 98225  
(360) 733-4500

2930 WETMORE AVENUE, SUITE 9E  
EVERETT, WA 98201  
(425) 252-3188

E-Mail: Rick.Larsen@mail.house.gov  
<http://www.house.gov/larsen>

RICK LARSEN  
2ND DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4702

COMMITTEES:  
TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT  
RAILROADS

AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
LIVESTOCK AND HORTICULTURE  
GENERAL FARM COMMODITIES  
AND RISK MANAGEMENT

April 24, 2001

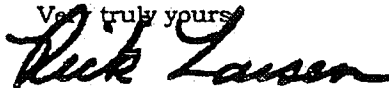
Mr. James C. Kaufman  
5873 Madrona Dr.  
Ferndale, Washington 98248

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

Thank you for contacting my office in March regarding your apprehension about the radio antenna near your home. I wrote the Federal Communications Commission on your behalf, and enclosed is their reply. I sincerely hope their response is satisfactory and helps to clarify the issues you mentioned.

I hope all is well in Ferndale, and I look forward to hearing from you again in the future.

Very truly yours,



Rick Larsen, Member of Congress  
Second District - Washington

RL/cl  
Enclosures

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

April 30, 2001  
KCCF  
P. O. Box 847  
Ferndale, WA 98248

James Kaufman  
5873 Madrone Drive  
Ferndale, WA 98248

Dear Mr. Kaufman,

Radio Station KCCF wants to help you solve the RFI problems you are experiencing with your amateur radio station.

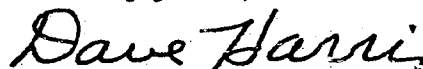
KCCF has a powerful signal at your location that is capable of inducing fairly large RF voltages in your large amateur radio antennas. These voltages, if presented to the antenna input terminals of your receivers can drive the circuits into non-linear modes of operation (over-load). This can cause unwanted and unexpected audio outputs from your receiver. If these voltages are presented to your transmitter antenna terminals, the SWR meter will interpret the voltage as a return voltage and may display a misleading indication of excessive VSWR.

These unfortunate results can be mitigated or entirely eliminated by preventing the induced RF voltages from reaching the antenna terminals of your equipment. Installing appropriate filters in the antenna feed-lines can do this.

My first suggestion would be to install a multi-section high-pass filter in line with your feed-line. I have such a filter that I would like you to try. It has female UHF connectors on each end. I believe that this is compatible with the connectors you are using. I can change them, and/or provide a length of terminated RG-8/U so that the unit can easily be installed for testing.

You can contact KCCF (and me) at 384-5257. I am looking forward to hearing from you and to working with you to solve your RFI problem.

Sincerely yours,



F. D. Harris

cc: M. Miller, KCCF  
M. Rothe, FCC  
A. Struiksma, KCCF



MERLE BELLER  
COUNCILMEMBER  
CITY OF FERNDALE  
WA, 98248

2 MAY 2001

MR BELLER:

I WENT OUT TO KCCF MONDAY, TO LET MR HARRIS KNOW I DID NOT NEED HIS SERVICE FOR MY RF PROBLEM. HE CALLED 4 TIMES OVER THE WEEKEND, I WAS GONE.

ANYWAY I MADE CONTACT WITH ANDY STRUIKSMA THE OPERATOR AT THE STATION. I SAW THE LICENSE FOLDER THEY HAVE POSTED. IT IS A TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR KCCF. IT IS DATED IN 1995 WITH THE OLD KNTR CALL SIGN ON THE TEMP LICENSE. THE PERMANANT LICENSE HAS NEVER BEEN ISSUED BY FCC. THE REASON MAY BE CANADA HAS NEVER GIVEN ITS APPROVAL OF THE STATION OPERATION.

ON A RETURN LETTER FROM THE FCC, I GOT THRU US HOUSE REP RICK LARSEN OFFICE ON 24 APRIL 2001. THIS LETTER CAME FROM A MR ROY J. STEWART, CHIEF MASS MEDIA BUREAU FOR FCC. HE STATED THE KCCF HAS BEEN LICENSED TO OPERATE FOR THE PAST 5 1/2 YEARS FROM THIS LOCATION. THAT WOULD PUT THE LICENSE BACK TO 1995, WHICH IS WHAT I FOUND AT THE STATION.

ENCLOSED IS A COPY OF THE LETTER RECEIVED BACK FROM THE FCC TO US HOUSE REP MR RICK LARSEN FOR YOUR REVIEW.

ALSO FOUND OUT, THE LICENSE IS REQUIRED TO BE UPDATED EACH 8 YEARS WHEN A FINAL ONE IS ISSUED.

ALSO RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM A REPRESENTATIVE FOR SENATOR CANTWELL. A LETTER IS GOING OUT SHORTLY ALSO TO FCC WITH MY COMPLAINT.

HOPE THIS MAY HELP OUT, THAT THE CITY WILL TAKE SOME POSITIVE ACTION WITH THE FCC, NOW THAT THE LICENSE IS A TEMPORARY AND NOT A PERMANENT LICENSE.? THANKS

*James C. Kaufman*  
JAMES C. KAUFMAN

PHONE 384-1358

MARIA CANTWELL  
WASHINGTON

COMMITTEES:  
ENERGY AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
JUDICIARY  
SMALL BUSINESS

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

May 2, 2001

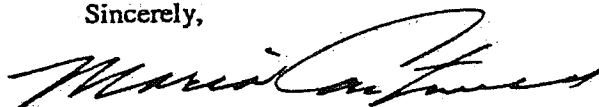
James Kaupman  
5873 Madrona Drive  
Ferndale, Washington 98248

Dear James:

Thank you for contacting my office regarding radio station KCCF. I appreciate you bringing this matter to my attention, and I have asked the appropriate federal agency to respond to your concerns.

I will contact you again as soon as a response is available. If there is anything I can do for you in the interim, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,



Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator

MC:ll

U.S. FEDERAL COURTHOUSE  
WEST 920 RIVERSIDE, SUITE 697  
SPOKANE, WA 99201  
(509) 353-2507  
FAX: (509) 353-2547

JACKSON FEDERAL BUILDING  
915 2ND AVENUE, SUITE 3206  
SEATTLE, WA 98174-1003  
(206) 220-6400  
TOLL FREE: 1-888-648-7328  
FAX: (206) 220-6404

Internet: [maria@cantwell.senate.gov](mailto:maria@cantwell.senate.gov)  
Web: <http://cantwell.senate.gov>  
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

717 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705  
(202) 224-3441  
FAX: (202) 228-0514

INDUSTRY CANADA PACIFIC REGION OFFICE  
2000-300W GEORGIA ST.  
VANCOUVER, B.C. CANADA

19 MAY 01

DEAR SIR:

MY REASON FOR CONTACTING YOU, IS IN REGARDS TO A HIGH POWER AM RELIGION RADIO STATION ON FREQUENCY 1550KHZ. THIS STATION MOVED JUST OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS OF FERNDALE, WA IN 1987 FROM STERLING AVE BELLINGHAM, WASH. ITS CALL SIGN FOR YEARS WAS KNTR. WITH THE RELIGIOUS NEWTWORK, AND POLITICAL PULL, INCREASED ITS POWER UP TO 50,000 WATTS DAYTIME AND 10,000 AT NIGHT. ITS MAIN COVERAGE AREA COVERS HOPE, B.C. TO COURTENAY ON VANCOUVER ISLAND.

SINCE WERE ABOVE THE A-LINE ON LOCATION HERE, AND FROM WHAT I CAN DETERMINE THIS RADIO STATION IS STILL RUNNING ON A OUTDATED LICENSE YEAR 1995.

KNTR IS THE PERMANENT CALL SIGN AND KCCF IS TEMPORARY. THE FCC HAS NOT TO THIS DATE UPDATED THIS LICENSE. IS THE REASON BEING THAT YOU HAVE NOT GIVEN YOUR APPROVAL FROM CANADA, BECAUSE OF LOCATION OF STATION AND POWER.? HOPE THIS IS THE CASE.

THIS RADIO STATION WAS SOLD IN MAR 98 TO PEARL BROADCASTING ANAHEIM, CALIF. MR MATT MILLER, CELL PHONE NUMBER IS 714-448-9971. AGAIN THIS SHOULD BE A CALL SIGN CHANGE, STILL NO CHANGE.? THIS TRANSMITTER WAS CHANGED OUT ALSO WITH A USED RF HARRIS MODEL DX50 MODEL 50 KW. MY INTERFERENCE PROBLEM STARTED FROM THEIR STATION, I!M GETTING 11V/M AT THE BASE OF MY 55FT TOWER 1.4KM AWAY FROM THE RADIO STATION ANTENNAS. THIS STATION HAS CAUSED ALL KINDS OF GRIEF FOR THE RESIDENT OF FERNDALE. IF THERE IS ANY HELP YOU CAN PROVIDE TO REMEDY THIS SITUATION WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED. THANK YOU.

JAMES C. KAUFMAN

ADDRESS:  
JAMES C. KAUFMAN  
5873 MADRONA DRIVE  
FERNDALE, WA 98248  
PHONE 360-384-1358  
COMMERCIAL TICKET &  
EXTRA AMATEUR W7UMH



Industry  
Canada

#2000 - 300 West Georgia Street  
Vancouver, B.C.  
V6B 6E1

Mr. James C. Kaufman  
5873 Madrona Drive  
Ferndale, WA  
U.S.A. 98248

June 18, 2001

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

Thank you for your letter dated 19 May, 2001. Our Ottawa office indicated that the FCC submitted a co-ordination notice to Industry Canada on KNTR in 1995. Industry Canada approved the frequency co-ordination in December 1996. There has been no more notification on this station other than a change to the callsign of KCCF.

May we suggest that you contact your local FCC office for further clarification on the matter and assistance on your interference problem.

Regards,

Angela Choi  
Communications Engineer  
Pacific Region  
Industry Canada



**CITY HALL**

2095 Main Street  
P.O. Box 936 - Ferndale, WA 98248

July 30, 2002

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
Room TW-B204  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington DC 20554

**Ref: File No. BL-890424AI - Reply Against KCCF Radio Broadcasting Station**

Dear Sir/Madam:

It is my understanding that the license for the above referenced AM broadcast station is due for renewal in 2003. The following comments are being provided for your consideration in determining the license renewal.

Over the past several years, the City of Ferndale has received numerous complaints from citizens regarding radio frequency interference to phones, faxes, radio reception, and computer systems. These complaints have been received both administratively and as formal comments during city council sessions.

The City itself has experienced considerable problems in City facilities. As communicated to you in September of 1998 the City moved into a remodeled structure serving as the main city hall offices. The structure is located at 2095 Main Street in close proximity to the broadcast facility. Due to RF interference our computer network was practically inoperative for up to two months. With the assistance of consultants and an engineer referred to us by the radio station, we were finally able to rectify the situation through shielding, filters, and the physical relocation of certain system components. Not only did the City lose valuable time while the system was not functioning, several thousand dollars of taxpayer money was required to solve the problem.

In 1999 the City relocated its parks department to a remodeled house on River Road adjacent to Pioneer Park. This facility is three quarters of a mile to a mile from the station towers. To this date the RF interference problem at that facility has not been resolved. At certain times the phone system is virtually unuseable. The fax will only work sporadically and internet access is impossible. The latter is often relied on for transmission of data between city hall and the parks office, but the City is now being denied this capability.

**Administrative Offices**  
Phone: (360) 384-4302  
Fax: (360) 384-1163

**Clerk/Treasurer's Office**  
Phone: (360) 384-4302  
Fax: (360) 384-1163

**Planning & Building Dept.**  
Phone: (360) 384-4006  
Fax: (360) 384-5189

**Public Works Dept.**  
Phone: (360) 384-4006  
Fax: (360) 384-5189

City Website: <http://www.ci.ferndale.wa.us>

City E-Mail: [signet@compuserve.com](mailto:signet@compuserve.com)

The City will be building a new public safety facility within the next couple of years. We are concerned about RF interference and its effect on communications within an essential public facility. Failure of communications with the public safety facility could pose life threatening circumstances. Additional measures will be taken in the design phase to shield from interference, but there will be no guarantee of its success and it will add substantially to the cost of the structure at the taxpayers' expense.

I am formally requesting that in consideration of the license renewal application restrictions be imposed which will provide relief to the community or if that is not feasible that the license not be renewed.

Sincerely,



Roland Signett  
City Administrator

cc: Ferndale City Council  
Whatcom County Council  
County Executive Pete Kremen  
Senator Georgia Gardner  
Representative Doug Ericksen  
Representative Kelli Linville  
FCC Local Official Mike Rothe



## CITY HALL

2095 Main Street  
P.O. Box 936 - Ferndale, WA 98248

August 5, 2002

Senator Georgia Gardner  
P O Box 3349  
Blaine, Washington 98231-3349

Dear Senator Gardner,

Please read the enclosed letter from Ferndale City Administrator Roland Signett to the Federal Communications Commission. The City is deeply concerned about the radio broadcasting station located on Imhoff Road, just outside of our city limits, in Whatcom County. For many years the power of this station has caused excessive interference with electronic office equipment, telephone and fax lines, computer lines, and home stereo equipment within the City. The City has been told consistently that we would have to wait for the license renewal process, at which time we could voice our concerns. That license is now up for review. The Ferndale City Council has directed staff to contact the FCC regarding this inordinate radio interference after hearing from many residents and non-residents alike, and further, after experiencing problems themselves.

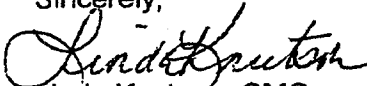
We are asking for your support in asking the FCC to seriously consider imposing, at the very least, restrictions that will provide long hoped-for relief for the residents of Ferndale and the surrounding area. Please direct your comments to:

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
Room TW-B204  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington D.C. 20554

Also, please state **"RE: Reply AGAINST KCCF Radio Broadcasting Station"**.

Thank you for your consideration in helping our community by responding to this request. If you need any further information, please give Roland a call at 384-4302.

Sincerely,

  
Linda Knutson, CMC  
City Clerk  
City of Ferndale

Administrative Offices  
Phone: (360) 384-4302  
Fax: (360) 384-1163

Clerk/Treasurer's Office  
Phone: (360) 384-4302  
Fax: (360) 384-1163

Planning & Building Dept.  
Phone: (360) 384-4006  
Fax: (360) 384-5189

Public Works Dept.  
Phone: (360) 384-4006  
Fax: (360) 384-5189

City Website: <http://www.ci.ferndale.wa.us>

City E-Mail: [signett@compuserve.com](mailto:signett@compuserve.com)

**CITY HALL**

2095 Main Street  
P.O. Box 936 - Ferndale, WA 98248

August 5, 2002

Whatcom County Executive Pete Kremen  
and  
Whatcom County Councilmembers  
Whatcom County Courthouse  
311 Grand Avenue  
Bellingham, Washington 98225

Dear Executive Kremen and Honorable County Councilmembers:

Please read the enclosed letter from Ferndale City Administrator Roland Signett to the Federal Communications Commission. The City is deeply concerned about the radio broadcasting station located on Imhoff Road, just outside of our city limits, in Whatcom County. For many years the power of this station has caused excessive interference with electronic office equipment, telephone and fax lines, computer lines, and home stereo equipment within the City. The City has been told consistently that we would have to wait for the license renewal process, at which time we could voice our concerns. That license is now up for review. The Ferndale City Council has directed staff to contact the FCC regarding this inordinate radio interference after hearing from many residents and non-residents alike, and further, after experiencing problems themselves.

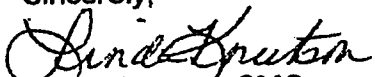
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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
Room TW-B204  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington D.C. 20554

Also, please state **"RE: Reply AGAINST KCCF Radio Broadcasting Station"**.

Thank you for your consideration in helping our community by responding to this request. If you need any further information, please give Roland a call at 384-4302.

Sincerely,

  
Linda Knutson, CMC  
City Clerk  
City of Ferndale

Administrative Offices  
Phone: (360) 384-4302  
Fax: (360) 384-1163

Clerk/Treasurer's Office  
Phone: (360) 384-4302  
Fax: (360) 384-1163

Planning & Building Dept.  
Phone: (360) 384-4006  
Fax: (360) 384-5189

Public Works Dept.  
Phone: (360) 384-4006  
Fax: (360) 384-5189

City Website: <http://www.ci.ferndale.wa.us>

City E-Mail: [signett@compuserve.com](mailto:signett@compuserve.com)





City of Ferndale  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Council, Mayor  
cc: James Kaufman  
FROM: Linda Knutson, City Clerk  
DATE: August 6, 2002  
SUBJECT: Letter to FCC

Enclosed you will find the letter to the FCC from the City. Also enclosed are copies of the letter to state elected officials asking for their support. Mike Rothe, an FCC official from Kirkland, has communicated strong support for the city in this matter and is urging Ferndale residents to write to the FCC collectively and individually. He feels that the more concerned citizens heard from, the better. So, along with the letter from Roland, we would urge each of you to send letters, as citizens AND Councilmembers, detailing your concerns, to:

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
Room TW-B204  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington D.C. 20554

Also, please state ***"RE: Reply AGAINST KCCF Radio Broadcasting Station"***.

If you have heard from or know of any other citizens experiencing problems, please give them this address and let them know it is important for them to let the FCC hear their concerns now.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda", is written over the "Thank you." text.



## CITY HALL

2095 Main Street

P.O. Box 936 - Ferndale, WA 98248

August 6, 2002

Representative Kelli Linville  
 104 West Magnolia - Suite 306  
 Bellingham, Washington 98225

Dear Representative Linville,

Please read the enclosed letter from Ferndale City Administrator Roland Signett to the Federal Communications Commission. The City is deeply concerned about the radio broadcasting station located on Imhoff Road, just outside of our city limits, in Whatcom County. For many years the power of this station has caused excessive interference with electronic office equipment, telephone and fax lines, computer lines, and home stereo equipment within the City. The City has been told consistently that we would have to wait for the license renewal process, at which time we could voice our concerns. That license is now up for review. The Ferndale City Council has directed staff to contact the FCC regarding this inordinate radio interference after hearing from many residents and non-residents alike, and further, after experiencing problems themselves.

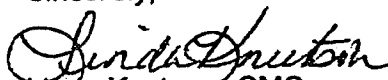
We are asking for your support in asking the FCC to seriously consider imposing, at the very least, restrictions that will provide long hoped-for relief for the residents of Ferndale and the surrounding area. Please direct your comments to:

Federal Communications Commission  
 Office of the Secretary  
 Room TW-B204  
 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
 Washington D.C. 20554

Also, please state **"RE: Reply AGAINST KCCF Radio Broadcasting Station"**.

Thank you for your consideration in helping our community by responding to this request. If you need any further information, please give Roland a call at 384-4302.

Sincerely,

  
 Linda Knutson, CMC  
 City Clerk  
 City of Ferndale

Administrative Offices  
 Phone: (360) 384-4302  
 Fax: (360) 384-1163

Clerk/Treasurer's Office  
 Phone: (360) 384-4302  
 Fax: (360) 384-1163

Planning & Building Dept.  
 Phone: (360) 384-4006  
 Fax: (360) 384-5189

Public Works Dept.  
 Phone: (360) 384-4006  
 Fax: (360) 384-5189

City Website: <http://www.ci.ferndale.wa.us>City E-Mail: [signett@compuserve.com](mailto:signett@compuserve.com)

**CITY HALL**

2095 Main Street  
P.O. Box 936 - Ferndale, WA 98248

August 6, 2002

Representative Doug Erickson  
P O Box 40600  
420 John L. O'Brien Building  
Olympia, Washington 98504-0600

Dear Representative Erickson:

Please read the enclosed letter from Ferndale City Administrator Roland Signett to the Federal Communications Commission. The City is deeply concerned about the radio broadcasting station located on Imhoff Road, just outside of our city limits, in Whatcom County. For many years the power of this station has caused excessive interference with electronic office equipment, telephone and fax lines, computer lines, and home stereo equipment within the City. The City has been told consistently that we would have to wait for the license renewal process, at which time we could voice our concerns. That license is now up for review. The Ferndale City Council has directed staff to contact the FCC regarding this inordinate radio interference after hearing from many residents and non-residents alike, and further, after experiencing problems themselves.

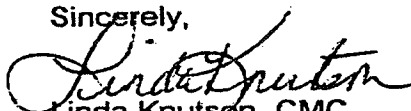
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Linda Knutson, CMC  
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Phone: (360) 384-4006  
Fax: (360) 384-5189

City Website: <http://www.ci.ferndale.wa.us>

City E-Mail: [signett@compuserve.com](mailto:signett@compuserve.com)

Saturday, February 8, 2003

RF COMPLAINT RADIO STATION  
KCCF FERNDAL, WASH

THIS RADIO STATION IS RUNNING POWER OF 50,000 DAYTIME  
10,000 WATTS NIGHTTIME. IT IS DIRECTING ALL OF THE HIGH  
POWER NORTHWARD INTO CANADA. THE COVERAGE IS FROM HOPE, B.C.  
TO COURTNEY N. VANCOUVER ISLAND. IT IS A RELIGIOUS STATION  
AND HAS A LOT OF RELIGIOUS NETWORK POLITICAL PULL, AND GOT  
PERMISSION FOR 50,000 WATTS.

IT GOT 50,000 WATTS IN 92 AND RAN A TUBE TYPE TX UNDER KNTR  
CALL SIGN, UNTILL SALE EARLY SPRING 98, AND BOUGHT A USED SOLID  
STATE TRANSMITTER AND INSTALLED NOV 98. A NEW CALL SIGN WAS  
ASSIGNED IN MAY 98 WITH CALL KCCF.

MY PROBLEM STARTED WITH A LOT OF RF FROM THIS STATION AT MY HOME  
5873 MADRONA DRIVE. THIS STARTED IN SPRING OF 99 WITH A LOT OF  
INTERFERENCE TO MY AMATEUR RADIO SYSTEM.

KCCF ENGINEER DAVID HARRIS BELIEVES IT IS MY PROBLEM NOT THEIR

Sunday, February 9, 2003

RF (RADIO FREQUENCY) EXPOSURE IN FERNDALE

A lot of citizens of Ferndale may not be aware of Rf exposure and interference to their community from a AM Radio Station. It is owned now by BBC Broadcasting and is located on 1550khz on the radio dial. It is located at 5538 Imhoff road. They moved here in 1987 from Bellingham and were only 1,000 watts then with call sign of KNTR. It is located on county property inside the city of Ferndale. It was sold in 1998 and call sign changed to KCCF. Its equipment was upgraded to solid state 50,000 watts daytime and 10,000 at night.

This station was sold again last June 2002 and is running Hindu religious programming. The primary use for this station is British Columbia coverage. There is no advantage for this station being in Ferndale. Its new call sign now is KRPI.

I'm sure you are aware of all the interference to users of DSL and regular phone service, computers, church and school PA systems. As Ferndale grows it will become more of a problem. This past week in the local paper a article about Ferndale new Police Station being considered to be built next to City Hall. This radio station will be more of a problem for the city.

This situation needs community and general support to let the City, and the Federal Communication Commission in Wash D. C. Know your concerns in writing. Contact City Hall for correct Washington D.C. mailing address.

*James C. Kaufman*  
James C. Kaufman  
5873 Madrona Drive  
Ferndale, Wash 98248  
360-384-1358



CITY HALL  
2095 Main Street  
P.O. Box 936 - Ferndale, WA 98248

---

March 5, 2003

Mr. Ricardo Rodriguez  
2436 Heights Drive  
Ferndale, Washington 98248

Dear Mr. Rodriguez,

Per our telephone conversation this morning, I am enclosing six sets of addresses for officials you can contact regarding the radio interference that you have been experiencing over many years. (Please note that there are two sets per page.) Also enclosed is a letter sent to these officials from Ferndale City Administrator Roland Signett.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance, or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Linda Knutson, CMC  
City Clerk  
City of Ferndale

March 10, 2003

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
Room TW-B204  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington DC 20554

Ref: File No. BL-890424A1 - Reply Against KCCF Radio Broadcasting Station, now KRPI

Dear Sir/Madam:


I was delighted to read the enclosed "Letter to the Editor" in the Bellingham Herald's March 1, 2003 edition by James C. Kaufman of Ferndale, WA regarding radio station KRPI. I have been plagued for years by varying degrees of static on my radio, particularly on a station that broadcasts a program I like to listen to at night as I do not sleep well. The static is present on most of the other stations, but not the "Hindu" religious program referred to by Mr. Kaufman which comes in loud and clear. Also, their program comes over our telephones, the one in our computer room so loudly that it can't be used.

Until I read Mr. Kaufman's letter we had no idea what was causing the problem. My partner sent an e-mail to the FCC a couple months ago and received two pages of suggestions for steps we should take to track down the source of disturbance, most of which we really couldn't understand.

I've spoken with many of our neighbors and others in the area, and they all have the same complaint. As Mr. Kaufman suggested, I called the Ferndale City Hall and was sent a copy of City Administrator Roland Signett's letter of July 30, 2002, and labels with members' addresses.

I and countless others would be most grateful for your help in doing what you can to eliminate this extremely annoying interference.

Sincerely,

  
June McQuarrie  
5228 Drayton Harbor Road  
Blaine, WA 98230

Enc. Mr. Kaufman's letter to Bellingham Herald  
cc: Commission members

*Thanks Linda*

March 18, 2003  
Radio Station KRPI  
P.O. Box 3213  
Ferndale, WA 98248

Michael S. Hovander, O.D.  
Ferndale Vision Clinic  
2001 Main Street  
Ferndale, WA 98248

Dear Mike,

I am sorry that your telephone company was not able to solve the annoyance of hearing KRPI in your telephone system. It has been my experience that telephone installers and troubleshooters are very good at their basic jobs, but they seem to have no corporate resource to assist them in cases of radio frequency interference (RFI). As a result, their efforts are generally limited to installing some filters and announcing that "it is not their problem".

Upon visiting your location today, I observed that the telephone lines on both sides of the customer interface are very long, and evidently not referenced to ground anywhere nearby, making for excellent radio antennas. Also, the hard-wired filters at the telephone line entrance are not new, but have been previously installed elsewhere. They all have had their ground wires (the yellow wire) snipped off which make them less than effective.

We have arranged to meet at your premises at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, April 8, 2003 so that I can better assess the scope of your problem and begin to assist you in remedying it.

Radio station KRPI is most interested in helping its neighbors solve any RFI problems, but you should be aware that they are under no obligation to do so. The FCC website ([fcc.gov](http://fcc.gov)) has excellent information about telephone interference from radio stations.

Sincerely yours,

David Harris

cc: Mike Rothe, FCC  
KRPI



April 4, 2003  
Radio Station KRPI  
PO Box 3213  
Ferndale, WA 98248

Lisa  
c/o Constantin Chiropractic Clinic  
2017 Main St.  
Ferndale, WA 98248

Dear Lisa,

I met with Elsa at 1:00 today. She was able to show me the audio system and explain the problem to me. By the time I left she agreed that the problem had been solved.

Your new CD player (in common with most consumer audio products) did not have any reference to ground, which makes it prone to radio interference. By bonding the CD player chassis to the tuner/amplifier chassis, the ingress path for the strong radio signal from KRPI was eliminated.

If you add equipment to your system the problem may return unless attention is paid to proper grounding.

You should be aware that, although KRPI has no obligation to remedy RFI complaints (as information available at [www.fcc.gov](http://www.fcc.gov) makes clear), the station is sensitive to RFI complaints from neighbors and is always ready to help solve those problems. I know that the station management would appreciate a note from your organization that indicates that the station, at no cost to you, responded to your interference complaint in a timely manner.

Sincerely yours,

David Harris  
Chief Engineer

cc: KRPI

To: gdellinger@ferndale.wednet.edu  
Cc: rcowan@ferndale.wednet.edu, kccf@gte.net,  
badhs@groupwise.douglas.bc.ca, MROTHE@fcc.gov  
Subject: Yamaha Keyboards at Mountain View School

Dear Georgia,

I met yesterday with Bette Ann Schwede and Celeste Larson and examined the Yamaha Keyboard situation. These units are interconnected by a large number of wires and cables. Some of those cables are terminated in DIN plugs and are shielded. Others are terminated in RCA plugs and are not shielded. The interference from KRPI vanished when the unshielded RCA type cables were disconnected. My plan to help you eliminate the RFI is to construct one set of filters designed to reduce the RF level fed to the keyboard. This, I predict, will prevent the keyboard from overloading and demodulating the radio signal. If the first set of filters are effective, then others can be constructed and installed (at your expense) for the remaining keyboards.

In order for any filter scheme to work properly, it is imperative that a robust ground connection be available close to the units. Your maintenance electrician should be able to provide such a ground terminal (near the computer or teacher's keyboard). This terminal should be connected to a nearby solid earth ground (a ground rod or copper cold water pipe) with at least AWG 12 stranded wire.

David Harris



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 5, 2003

Mr. James C. Kaufman  
5873 Madrona Drive  
Ferndale, Washington 98248

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

This is in reference to the Freedom of Information Act request (FOIA Control No. 2003-507), whereby you seek information concerning the license renewal of Station KRPI (formerly KCCF), Ferndale, Washington.

Please be advised that on January 22, 1998, the Commission granted the license renewal application (BR-19970902WA) of Station KRPI, for a term to expire on February 1, 2006. In accordance with Section 73.3539 of the Commission's Rules, BBC Broadcasting, Inc. is scheduled to submit a license renewal application for that station on or before October 1, 2005.

I trust the foregoing is responsive to your request.

Sincerely,

*James J. Brown*  
for Roy J. Stewart

Chief, Office of Broadcast License Policy  
Media Bureau

The Honorable Michael Powell Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street S.W.  
Washington D. C. 20554

22 August 2003

### PROPER LICENSE POSTED

My Name is James C. Kaufman and I live at 5873 Madrona Drive Ferndale, Wa 98248. My Phone Number is 360-384-1358. E-mail address james@telcomplus.net.

My reason for contacting you, is in regards to this high power AM Hindu religion station on 1550khz. I wrote you a letter on 14 March 2001 due to the interference this station has caused this community. The license posted on the door is for KNTR, checked this date 11 August 2003. There has been several Call Sign changes, KNTR 08/13/1984, KCCF 10/22/1998, KRPI 08/09/2002. But no new License posted on the wall or door at the transmitter site showing these new Call Signs. Yet a new Station with Call Sign KNTR was issued to Lake Havasu City, Az on 11/30/1999 to a Steven M. Greeley. So we now have two stations with same license posted with same Call sign. This is in Violation with FCC rules.

On 5 August 2003 I received a letter from Roy J. Stewart Chief Office Of Broadcast License Policy—Media Bureau office signed by a James J. Brown. He stated that the license was issued On January 22, 1998 for a term to expire on February 1, 2006 for KRPI. This is impossible as Station Call Sign KCCF was issued to Pearl Broadcasting out of Anaheim, Ca on 10/22/1998. This was too a Matt Miller owner. No License was issued to this station under this Call Sign. This Then would divert back to the old date under KNTR as Sept 21, 1995. Eight years would expire Sept 21, 2003. The city of Ferndale was not notified of any license renewal or any announcement Over the radio about a renewal. The Call Sign KRPI was just issued 08/09/2002 to BBC Broadcasting Inc Box 367, Bellingham, Was 98227. Yet no new license was issued by FCC for posting in the radio station As of this date 22 August 2003. I would appreciate a reply back as too what is going on with the FCC with This radio station.

Sincerely,

*James C. Kaufman*  
James C. Kaufman

#### Attachments:

- A1 Letter FCC Roy J. Stewart
- A2 FCC Mass Media Bureau KNTR
- A3 FCC Station Search Details KRPI
- A4 FCC Call Sign History KRPI
- A5 FCC Station Search Details KRPI
- A6 FCC Mass Media Bureau KCCF
- A7 FCC Mass Media Bureau KRPI
- A8 FCC Ltr to Pearl Broadcast Corp KCCF
- A9 Letter to Steven M. Greeley Lake Havasu, Az KNTR

MARIA CANTWELL  
WASHINGTON

File Number: BR-20050922ACS

COMMITTEES:  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND  
TRANSPORTATION  
ENERGY AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
INDIAN AFFAIRS  
SMALL BUSINESS

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

September 8, 2003

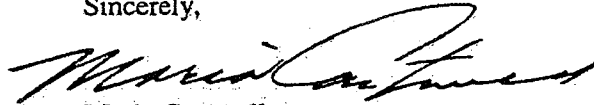
James Kaufman  
5873 Madrona Drive  
Ferndale, Washington 98248

Dear James:

Thank you for contacting my office regarding your concern over the possible violation of FCC rules by a radio station with various call letters through the years. I appreciate you bringing this matter to my attention, and I have asked the FCC congressional office to respond to your concerns.

I will contact you again as soon as a response is available. If there is anything I can do for you in the interim, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,



Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator

MC:jp

PLEASE REPLY TO:

☐ U.S. FEDERAL COURTHOUSE  
WEST 920 RIVERSIDE, SUITE 697  
SPOKANE, WA 99201  
(509) 353-2507  
FAX: (509) 353-2547

☐ JACKSON FEDERAL BUILDING  
915 2ND AVENUE, SUITE 3208  
SEATTLE, WA 98174-1003  
(206) 220-6400  
TOLL FREE: 1-888-648-7328  
FAX: (206) 220-6404

☐ MARSHALL HOUSE  
1313 OFFICERS' ROW  
FIRST FLOOR  
VANCOUVER, WA 98661  
(360) 698-7838  
FAX: (360) 698-7844

☐ 825 JADWIN AVENUE  
G-58-A  
RICHLAND, WA 99352  
(509) 946-6108  
FAX: (509) 946-9377

☐ 717 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705  
(202) 224-3441  
FAX: (202) 228-0514

Internet: [maria.cantwell@cantwell.senate.gov](mailto:maria.cantwell@cantwell.senate.gov)  
Web: <http://cantwell.senate.gov>  
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

**COUNTY COURTHOUSE**  
311 Grand Avenue, Suite #105  
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038



**COUNCILMEMBER**  
Barbara E. Brenner

**WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL**

FROM THE DESK OF COUNCILMEMBER BARBARA BRENNER

September 29, 2003

Susan Cole, Chair  
Planning and Judicial Committee  
Ferndale City Council  
Ferndale City Hall  
2095 Main Street  
Ferndale, WA 98248

*Susan*  
Dear Councilmember Cole,

I am in receipt of your request and have scheduled your Issue for the Whatcom County Council Public Works Committee in the Council chambers on October 7 at 1:30 PM. I share your concern regarding broadcast interference by a radio station to service lines that are necessary for the city of Ferndale to provide for the welfare of its residents.

However I do not have the letter you stated was enclosed with your request. It may have been misplaced. Please fax a copy of your original letter sent to the FCC so that I may include it in the agenda. The Council fax number is 738-2550. Please send it to my attention.

I have scheduled your issue as first on the agenda so that you will have assurance you will be heard at the beginning of the meeting. I hope our prosecuting attorney can attend to determine if there is anything the County can do legally to assist in resolving this problem.

I look forward to working with you on this important concern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barbara Brenner".

Barbara Brenner, Chair  
Whatcom County Council Public Works Committee

cc. Dave Grant, Whatcom County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
KRPI Radio Station  
Whatcom County Councilmembers  
Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council  
Correspondence File

BB/tak  
I:\SHARED\COUNCIL\BB\2003\Cole re broadcast interference 9.29.doc

Phone: (360) 676-6690

County: (360) 384-6637

TTY: (360) 738-4555

FAX: (360) 738-2550

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20554**

*AJS called 10/6/03  
Their problems have been solved but  
were caused by 1600 AM, not us.*

**IN REPLY REFER TO:  
1300B3-ALM**

**September 22, 2003**

**Ms. June McQuarrie  
5228 Drayton Harbor Road  
Blaine, Washington 98230**

**In re: KRPI(AM), Ferndale, WA  
Facility ID No. 21416  
BBC Broadcasting, Inc.  
Complaint of Interference**

**Dear Ms. McQuarrie:**

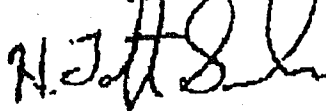
Thank you for your letter of March 10, 2003 regarding static which you are receiving on your radio which you believe is attributable to KRPI(AM), Ferndale, Washington. You also state that you can hear this station's programming over your telephones and your computer modem. While this problem has been occurring for some time, you were not aware of the specific cause until you read a letter to the editor in the March 1, 2003 edition of the Bellingham Herald. You ask for the Commission's assistance in resolving this problem.

The situation you describe may be attributable to "blanketing" interference which can occur to radio and other electronic devices that are in close proximity to an AM transmitter. The staff of the Audio Division is well aware of similar complaints to yours regarding this station. In 1989, after we authorized the station to increase power from 10 kW to 50 kW, we received multiple complaints of blanketing interference. In response we required the station to address the complaints and to file progress reports with the Commission on a monthly basis commencing in November 1989. We deferred action on the KRPI(AM) license application while we monitored the station's efforts to address the complaints. On September 25, 1995, we determined that the station had fulfilled its obligation to resolve the complaints and granted the license application. In a letter dated March 4, 1997, we notified the station that it could discontinue submitting the blanketing interference reports.

Pursuant to Commission rules, it is the responsibility of the station to resolve complaints concerning blanketing interference to covered devices (receivers, tuners, R.I. amplifiers, videocassette recorders, and television sets) if the complaint is filed within one year of the station's operations or modifications of its facilities and if the covered device is located within the station's blanketing contour. After the first year, licensees

often help listeners to alleviate interference in the interest of promoting goodwill with the station's community. From the interference reports submitted to the Commission, it is apparent that KRPI(AM) has attempted to resolve many complaints. The Commission's rules do not require a licensee to be financially responsible for resolving complaints of interference to non-radio frequency devices, such as the telephone and computer equipment about which you are concerned. Nevertheless, to afford the station the opportunity to respond to recent complaints of which it may be unaware, we are providing it a copy of your letter and our response.

Sincerely,



for. Peter H. Doyle, Chief  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: BBC Broadcasting, Inc.



COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
311 Grand Avenue, Suite #105  
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038



COUNCILMEMBER  
Barbara E. Brenner

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

FROM THE DESK OF COUNCILMEMBER BARBARA BRENNER

September 29, 2003

Susan Cole, Chair  
Planning and Judicial Committee  
Ferndale City Council  
Ferndale City Hall  
2095 Main Street  
Ferndale, WA 98248

Dear Councilmember *Susan* Cole,

I am in receipt of your request and have scheduled your issue for the Whatcom County Council Public Works Committee in the Council chambers on October 7 at 1:30 PM. I share your concern regarding broadcast interference by a radio station to service lines that are necessary for the city of Ferndale to provide for the welfare of its residents.

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Sincerely,

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Barbara Brenner, Chair  
Whatcom County Council Public Works Committee

cc. Dave Grant, Whatcom County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
KRPI Radio Station  
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Phone: (360) 676-6690

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FAX: (360) 738-2550

Federal Communications Commission  
Enforcement Bureau  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

30 Oct 2003

Dear Sir:

My Name is James C. Kaufman 5873 Madrona Drive, Ferndale, Wa 98248-9249. My phone is 360-384-1358, e-mail address is [james@telcomplus.net](mailto:james@telcomplus.net).

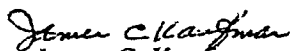
I have wrote several letters over the past 3 years to Commissioner Powell in regards to this AM radio Station on the edge of town. Its Call Sign is KRPI and on 1550khz. Its is running 50,000 daytime Power and 10,000 at night. It is a religion Hindu station and has no value to the citizens of Ferndale. Its main interest is up into British Columbia and the Vancouver area. The letters to Commission Powell End up in the Media Bureau and Ron J. Stewart.

I decided to write you thru our representative in Congress and see if we can get some satisfaction from Your enforcement Bureau. This AM radio station is about 1,000 feet from center of town and about 500 to 700 feet from a senior housing area. It has cause a lot of grief for a lot of citizens of Ferndale. I am A Licensed Extra Class Amateur call W7UMH. Also have a Commercial Radio Telephone License. I have been in communications for over 50 years. This radio station give me 11v per meter of signal at my 55ft Tower and I'm only 1.2 miles away. Others station have gotten RF burns on their fingers while working On antennas. The complete signal is beamed up north to British Columbia right through the north side Of town. The FCC has a monitoring station about 8 miles north and at approximately 20 degrees. They had This station back in the early 90's make a null in their signal so not to interfere with their facility. The Radio transmitter was a tube type 50kw station. After sale to Pearl Broadcasting in Anaheim, Calif in 1998 is became a solid state transmitter same power 50kw daytime. It is now owned by BBC Corp owned By 3 Lawyers Carpenter, Hardesty, Britain 222 Grand Avenue, P.O. Box 367 Bellingham, Wa 98227-0367. The Public Inspection file has no information with current license. It still shows KNTR license that goes Back to 1995. The Media Bureau said license was renewed Jan 22, 1998, yet the city or newspapers were Not contacted during this period as the rules so indicate should be done by the station as well as the FCC.?

More of my concerns is this station 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> harmonic 4650khz and 7750khz are as strong as their main Carrier at my locations, and other hams 8 to 12 miles away are getting the same results on spectrum analyzers. This in my opinion is too much and the system needs an outside source to inspect this station, and get is cleaned up, or make them reduce their power at this location. The radio station KRPI is located On the Imhoff Road P.O. Box 3213 Ferndale, Wa 98248. Phone is 360-384-5117. The letter I got from Media Bureau signed by Michael O. Perko for Roy J. Stewart. It has a CN0302832 number assigned to top of last letter, dated 20 Oct 2003.

I would appreciate my representative for congress to forward this on to the enforcement Bureau for corrective action. Thank You.

Sincerely




James C. Kaufman  
5873 Madrona Drive  
Ferndale, Wa 98248-9249  
Phone 360-384-1358

3 November 2003

United States Senator  
Maria Cantwell  
Jackson Federal Building  
915 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite 3206  
Seattle, Wa 98174-1003

I would appreciate if you would send this on to the Enforcement Bureau of the FCC. I believe in the Past we have been sending this to Chairman Powell, which is under the Media Bureau. I believe this Is the wrong place for this information to get the proper attention. Any comments you might have Regarding the comments in this letter is much appreciated. Thank You.

  
James C. Kaufman  
5873 Madrona Drive  
Ferndale, Wa 98248  
Phone 360-384-1358  
E-mail james@telcomplus.net

MARIA CANTWELL  
WASHINGTON

717 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705  
(202) 224-3441  
FAX: (202) 228-0514

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

COMMITTEES:  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND  
TRANSPORTATION  
ENERGY AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
INDIAN AFFAIRS  
SMALL BUSINESS

January 20, 2004

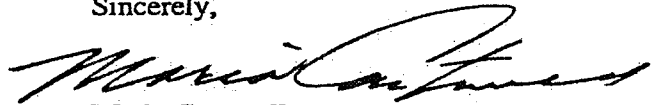
James Kaufman  
5873 Madrona Drive  
Ferndale, Washington 98248

Dear James:

In response to my inquiry on your behalf, I have received the enclosed correspondence from the Federal Communications Commission.

I appreciate you bringing this matter to my attention and giving me the opportunity to assist you in resolving this issue. I sincerely regret that my response cannot be more favorable at this time. Please feel free to contact my office in the future, should you need assistance with another matter involving the federal government.

Sincerely,



Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator

MC:jp

Enclosure

PLEASE REPLY TO:

☐ U.S. FEDERAL COURTHOUSE  
WEST 920 RIVERSIDE, SUITE 897  
SPOKANE, WA 99201  
(509) 353-2507  
FAX: (509) 353-2547

☐ JACKSON FEDERAL BUILDING  
915 2ND AVENUE, SUITE 3206  
SEATTLE, WA 98174-1003  
(206) 220-6400  
TOLL FREE: 1-888-648-7328  
FAX: (206) 220-6404

☐ MARSHALL HOUSE  
1313 OFFICERS' ROW  
FIRST FLOOR  
VANCOUVER, WA 98661  
(360) 696-7838  
FAX: (360) 696-7844

☐ 825 JADWIN AVENUE  
G-58-A  
RICHLAND, WA 99352  
(509) 946-8108  
FAX: (509) 946-9377

☐ 2930 WETMORE AVENUE  
SUITE 98  
EVERETT, WA 98201  
(425) 303-0114  
FAX: (425) 303-8351

☐ 950 PACIFIC AVENUE  
8TH FLOOR  
TACOMA, WA 98402  
(253) 572-2281  
FAX: (253) 572-5879

Internet: [maria\\_cantwell@cantwell.senate.gov](mailto:maria_cantwell@cantwell.senate.gov)  
Web: <http://cantwell.senate.gov>  
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

JAN 14 2004

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
CN-0303888

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
United States Senate  
Jackson Federal Building  
915 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Suite 3206  
Seattle, Washington 98174

RECEIVED

JAN 20 2004

Dear Senator Cantwell:

Thank you for your follow-up inquiry on behalf of your constituent, Mr. James C. Kaufman of Ferndale, Washington, regarding KRPI-AM, a broadcast radio station licensed to Ferndale and operating on 1550 kHz. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Over the past few years, the Commission has responded to several inquiries from Mr. Kaufman, or on his behalf, regarding the operation of KRPI. In his most recent correspondence, Mr. Kaufman generally discusses matters that previously were addressed by the Commission, including its Enforcement Bureau. Nonetheless, the Media Bureau staff consulted the Enforcement Bureau regarding Mr. Kaufman's current inquiry and, because his concerns have been addressed previously or raise issues that are more appropriately addressed by the Media Bureau, it was determined that a referral to the Enforcement Bureau was not warranted.

For example, Mr. Kaufman again expresses concern about interference to his amateur radio station and possible exposure to radiofrequency ("RF") radiation. These matters were addressed by the Commission in 2001. At that time, the Commission's Mass Media Bureau (now Media Bureau) indicated that the Commission's Seattle field office reported that the radio station installed filters at Mr. Kaufman's residence to address his interference concerns. In addition, the Bureau reported that the Commission's RF guidelines specifically are designed to protect the public health. Mr. Kaufman was informed by the Bureau that the RF guidelines were recommended by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements and adopted by the American National Standards Institute. The Bureau also noted that the RF standards had been endorsed by the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the Food and Drug Administration. In 2000, the RF standards were affirmed by the U.S. Court Appeals for the Second Circuit. Since we last addressed Mr. Kaufman's concerns in this area, on June 12, 2003, the Commission adopted a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* to update its RF regulations to reflect developments in technology and to clarify the responsibilities of Commission licensees and grantees in complying with the RF guidelines. Although the Commission requested comment on various topics and issues related to evaluating compliance with the RF guidelines, the Commission did not propose to amend the exposure guidelines themselves. The comment period in this matter

Page 2—The Honorable Maria Cantwell

closed on January 6, 2004 and the Commission will issue a decision as expeditiously as possible.

Next, Mr. Kaufman continues to be concerned that KRPI may not have the appropriate Commission license in the station's public file because the license specifies that the station's call sign is KNTR. As discussed in the Bureau's October 20, 2003 response, the station's license was renewed in 1998 for a term of eight years. This response also noted that the AM radio station operating on 1550 kHz in Ferndale has changed ownership and call signs several times and explained that a change in the station's ownership or modification of its call sign does not affect the license term. Therefore, the Bureau indicated that the 1998 authorization is the one that should be posted at the station.

Mr. Kaufman also indicates that the City of Ferndale and local newspapers were not contacted when the station filed an application with the Commission requesting renewal of its broadcast authorization. In its October 20, 2003 response, the Bureau explained that when an application for renewal of a radio license is received, the Commission issues a *Public Notice* announcing that the station has filed for renewal of its license and inviting interested persons to file comments or objections concerning the renewal. In addition, a radio station generally is required to notify the public of the license renewal process by broadcasting announcements on the radio station immediately before and after filing its license renewal application. These announcements are made at least twice per month beginning six months prior to the expiration date of the license. Similar announcements also are required to be made after the application for renewal has been filed with the Commission. Contrary to Mr. Kaufman's understanding, there is no general Commission requirement that a radio station notify the local government when a broadcast application is filed with the Commission. There is a Commission rule, however, which requires that certain types of broadcast applicants, such as new translator stations, place a notice in a local newspaper. This rule, however, contains a specific exemption for broadcast license renewal applications filed by particular entities, such as AM and FM radio stations. Therefore, pursuant to this rule, KRPI was not required to publish a notice in a local newspaper concerning the filing of an application for renewal of its AM radio license.

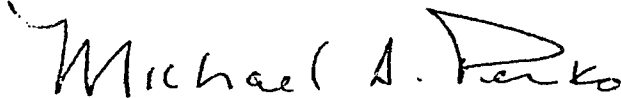
Mr. Kaufman does raise an issue that has not been addressed previously, *i.e.*, that KRPI "has no value to the citizens of Ferndale." Whether a broadcast station is serving the needs of its community of license is best and properly explored in a proceeding conducted by the Media Bureau concerning the renewal of the station's broadcast license. In determining whether a station's broadcast license should be renewed, the Commission considers, among other things, whether the licensee has addressed community issues with responsive programming. To assist with this determination, the Commission requires that broadcast licensees compile quarterly lists of programs that have provided the station's most significant treatment of community issues during the preceding three months. The lists must include a brief description of the issues that were given significant treatment and the programming that provided this treatment. The Commission requires that these lists be maintained in the station's public file until final action has been taken on the station's next license renewal application. The Bureau previously informed Mr. Kaufman that KRPI's license is scheduled to expire on February 1, 2006. As

Page 3—The Honorable Maria Cantwell

required by Commission regulations, a license renewal application for KRPI must be submitted to the Commission no later than October 1, 2005. At that time, Mr. Kaufman, as well as other residents of Ferndale, may express their views as to whether KRPI should continue to be authorized to serve their community.

I hope that this information is helpful to you and Mr. Kaufman. If Mr. Kaufman has additional questions or would like to discuss this matter further, he may contact Ms. Margo Domon Davenport at 202-418-2949 or [margo.domon-davenport@fcc.gov](mailto:margo.domon-davenport@fcc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael S. Perko". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Michael S. Perko  
Chief, Office of Communications and Industry Information  
Media Bureau

## AARL Correspondence

Greg, I am looking for some directions on a couple questions. We have KRPI 50,000 watt station located in Ferndale Washington beaming a 3 phase array toward B.C. Canada. This station has been a thorn in the side of the community for several years and their license is up for renewal next February. Amateurs within a couple miles of the station can not operate 160. 80. 40 meters because the signal raises the noise floor to a point that it paralyzes the receiver. I even got R.F. burns from the signal while working on a 160 antenna a quarter mile away. The station has to renew the license in February with the complaint window starting next month. Several of us want to file a complaint with the FCC about the power level and the problems it has caused since they went from 10,000 to 50,000 watts several years ago. We were told we have to pay \$180.00 to file the complaint. Is this so? And can a Canadian own a commercial radio station in the U.S?

Thanks

Al Johnson

W7EKM

9/7/05

SENT TO GREG OUR  
NORTHWESTERN DIVISION  
DIRECTOR.

HE SENT ON TO RICK  
HENNESSEE AT AARL  
860 594-0236

PAGE 3 - HIS RESPONSE

I HAVE HAD MY QUESTIONS ~~ANSWERED~~  
~~ANSWERED~~



Subj: **FW: Questions**  
Date: 9/7/2005 4:52:39 PM Pacific Daylight Time  
From: [w7oz@comcast.net](mailto:w7oz@comcast.net)  
To: [W7ekm@cs.com](mailto:W7ekm@cs.com)  
File: **krpi.doc** (1704 bytes) DL Time (26400 bps): < 1 minute  
Received from Internet: [click here for more information](#)

Here's what we're doing so far. Looks like a whole bunch of ARRL HQ guys are going to look into this, even our legal counsel, Chris Imlay, W3KD, and Riley Hollingsworth, W4 (forgot the rest of his call) FCC enforcement counsel. I note two guys from the lab are also copied (Mike Gruber and Zack Lau).

73/Greg W7OZ

**From:** Hennessee, John, N1KB [mailto:n1kb@arri.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 07, 2005 4:34 PM  
**To:** Milnes, Greg (Dir, NW); [fccham@fcc.gov](mailto:fccham@fcc.gov)  
**Cc:** Skolaut, Chuck K0BOG; Gruber, Mike W1MG; Lau, Zack, W1VT; Patton, David NN1N; Imlay, Chris  
**Subject:** FW: Questions

Greg,

I am copying Riley Hollingsworth and others who may have some insight on this.

I did a bit of research on the interference to W7EKM of Ferndale, WA from a commercial radio station, KRPI. The above attachment states that amateurs within several miles of Ferndale have been experiencing interference from the commercial station. I found an interesting discussion of the interference caused to various Ferndale services. The minutes of the Whatcom County Council in 2003 go into great detail about the interference cause to Ferndale. See [http://www.whatcomcounty.us/council/2003/minutes/public\\_works/1007.pdf](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/council/2003/minutes/public_works/1007.pdf). According to the minutes, KRPI is located very near the site of the former FCC Field Office. According to the Minutes, Ferndale officials were building a case. W7EKM said that the KRPI license is up for renewal early next year and that he would like to file a complaint. While the document is from 2003, the amateur interference matter would suggest that little has been done. W7EKM said he was told that it would cost \$180 to file a complaint against the station which sounds very strange, especially given the stations non-responsiveness to the Town of Ferndale. I'll have more later.

John, N1KB

**From:** Greg Milnes [mailto:w7oz@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 07, 2005 4:36 PM  
**To:** Hennessee, John, N1KB  
**Subject:** FW: Questions

John

Do you have any thoughts for this fellow? RF burns are nasty! Being close to a directional 50KW job is also bad for receiver health. What can they do? Maybe Zach could also help out. Maybe Chris knows some way to get the fees waived. I'm starting with you because you are the man!

Thanks

73/Greg W7OZ

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL  
Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.  
COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
11 Grand Avenue, Suite #105  
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038



COUNCILMEMBERS  
Barbara E. Brenner  
Laurie Caskey-Schreiber  
Sam Crawford  
Seth M. Fleetwood  
Dan McShane  
L. Ward Nelson  
Sharon A. Roy

# WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

October 20, 2005

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Barbara Brenner, Councilmember  
FROM: Jill Nixon, Administrative Clerk *JN*  
SUBJ: Charter Review Commission Meeting Audiotape Recording

Barbara, this is my response to your question about whether or not I had ever experienced any radio interference in Ferndale, as you requested. The audiotape recording of the Charter Review Commission meeting at the Ferndale Senior Activity Center on April 14, 2005 was overlaid by programming from the radio station from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The voices of the speakers at the meeting could be heard faintly through the station broadcast. The recording equipment, a Marantz portable cassette recorder and a Nady Audio rack mixer, were plugged into an electrical outlet only, not any kind of sound system, at the activity center.

c: Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council  
Correspondence file

I:/jlnixon/2005/Memo to Brenner re audiotape

Phone: (360) 676-6690

County: (360) 384-6637

TTY: (360) 738-4555

FAX: (360) 738-2550

**CITY HALL**

2095 Main Street  
P.O. Box 936 - Ferndale, WA 98248

**DISTRIBUTED TO****OCT 27 2005**

October 24, 2005

Whatcom County Council  
311 Grand Ave.  
Suite 105  
Bellingham, WA 98225

**ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS  
WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL**

To the Honorable County Councilpersons:

We are writing to you today to express our continued concern about the impacts on local city and county residents from the operation of KRPI radio. KRPI is the radio station located in unincorporated Whatcom County on Imhof Road, just south of the Ferndale City limits.

Over the past decade, the City of Ferndale has received numerous complaints from local residents regarding radio interference from KRPI radio to many electronic and electrical devices including telephones, fax machines, radios, and computer equipment. Most recently, a number of residents appeared before the City Council on October 3, 2005 to express their continued frustration and concern about the situation.

The city itself has been impacted by the operation of KRPI radio. As previously communicated to the County Council, the city had to expend public resources to address radio frequency interference from KRPI. In 1998, the City Hall was relocated to 2095 Main Street. At that time, the city had to spend additional public resources to be able to operate a functioning computer network. The city, at public expense, had to install filters and shielding in the building and was forced to relocate certain computer systems in the building to allow them to function. In 1999, the city experienced similar results when our parks department was relocated to a house located on River Road, adjacent to the Conoco Philips Sports Complex. There were intermittent telephone interference problems at the City police department until the city recently replaced the telephone system. Whatcom County Fire District 7 has reported similar ongoing problems with their telephones.

The city has recently taken steps to secure property to construct a new public safety building in the downtown Ferndale area. We are concerned that additional public resource expenditures may be necessary to ensure that critical police and emergency communications can occur unimpeded.

This is a very technical issue that is largely controlled by complex federal laws and regulations. However, one is not required to be a radio engineer or lawyer to understand how regular citizens are being impacted by KRPI's operations.

**Administrative Offices**  
Phone: (360) 384-4302  
Fax: (360) 384-1163

**Clerk/Treasurer's Office**  
Phone: (360) 384-4302  
Fax: (360) 384-1163

**Planning & Building Dept.**  
Phone: (360) 384-4006  
Fax: (360) 384-5189

**Public Works Dept.**  
Phone: (360) 384-4006  
Fax: (360) 384-5189

*City Website: <http://www.ci.ferndale.wa.us>*

We are asking for the County Council's support in joining us in seeking FCC relief for residents impacted by the operations of the KRPI radio during the re-licensing comment period for KRPI radio. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

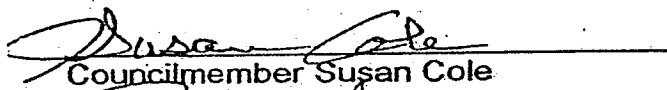
Ferndale City Council

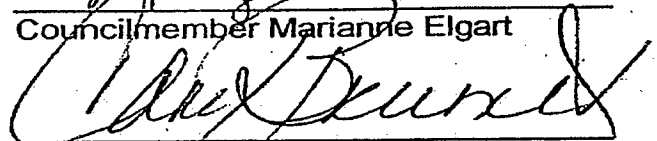
  
Councilmember Steve Oliver

  
Councilmember Mel Hansen

  
Councilmember Mike Reilly

  
Councilmember Marianne Elgart

  
Councilmember Susan Cole

  
Councilmember Carol Brumet

  
Councilmember Ron Wilson

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL  
Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.  
COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
311 Grand Avenue, Suite #105  
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038



COUNCILMEMBERS  
Barbara E. Brenner  
Laurie Caskey-Schreibe  
Sam Crawford  
Seth M. Fleetwood  
Dan McShane  
L. Ward Nelson  
Sharon A. Roy

## WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

October 26, 2005

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: License Renewal for Radio Station KRPI, 1550 kHz AM, Ferndale,  
Washington

Dear Mr. Martin:

The FCC operating license for radio station KRPI is due for renewal in February 2006. The station is located at 5538 Imhof Road in Ferndale, Washington. Since 1998 the Whatcom County Council and the Whatcom County Executive have received numerous reports of ongoing adverse effects alleged to be coming from the radio frequency of the station.

We have received concerns from residents inside and outside the city of Ferndale and from Ferndale City officials. These concerns have included daily interference with communications systems, radio, and telephone reception, answering machines, computer networking and Internet dial-up, public address systems at schools, churches, and other organizations, mobile-to-small business equipment, and other electronic equipment.

In addition, we have received reports alleging that these radio frequencies have caused burns from touching commonly found items, such as wire fences and metal clotheslines.

The City of Ferndale has already spent a substantial amount of money to shield its equipment and has still not solved its problems completely regarding interference alleged to be coming from the radio frequencies of the radio station.

The radio frequencies from this station are causing undue interference because the station increased its frequency and moved its location to a valley within ¼ mile of many residences and within ½ mile of Ferndale's downtown core.

The Whatcom County Council and the Whatcom County Executive represent a wide range of land use and public health and safety issues. Because this radio station is located in Whatcom County and there may be some related health and safety issues, we are especially interested and concerned.

Phone: (360) 676-6690

County: (360) 384-6637

TTY: (360) 738-4555

FAX: (360) 738-2550

We, therefore, request that the concerns addressed in this letter be resolved, especially the reduction of the wattage from 50,000 watts to 10,000 watts day and night, before KRPI Radio Station's license is renewed.

We further note that this station's primary purpose is to broadcast to a Canadian audience. The interference caused by the station burdens local resident without providing any local benefit; this appears to be inconsistent with the intended use of our public airwaves.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. We would appreciate a timely response to this request since the renewal decision will be made soon.

Sincerely,

  
Laurie Caskey-Schreiber, Chair  
Whatcom County Council

Enclosures:

Letter from the Ferndale City Council  
Petition signed by Whatcom County Residents  
Memorandum from the Council's Administrative Clerk  
Draft Minutes from the Council's October 25, 2005, Public Open Session

C: Senator Harriet Spanel  
Senator Bob Morton  
Representative Dave Quall  
Representative Jeff Morris  
Senator Dale Brandland  
Representative Kelli Linville  
Representative Doug Ericksen  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Senator Patty Murray  
Representative Rick Larson  
Ferndale City Council  
Residents Against High-Powered Radio Interference  
Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council  
AB2005-071  
Correspondence file

I:\SHARED\COUNCIL\All Councilmembers, 2005\Letter to FCC regarding radio station

107 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-2605

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
104 WEST MAGNOLIA, SUITE 208  
BELLINGHAM, WA 98225  
(360) 733-4500

2930 WETMORE AVENUE, SUITE 9F  
EVERETT, WA 98201  
(425) 252-3188

E-Mail: Rick.Larsen@mail.house.gov  
<http://www.house.gov/larsen>

RICK LARSEN  
2ND DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-4702

October 27, 2005

COMMITTEES:  
TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

AGRICULTURE

ARMED SERVICES

The Honorable Kevin Martin  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Martin,

I was recently contacted by a number of constituents in Ferndale, WA, in my Congressional district, about radio towers in Ferndale operated and owned by radio station KRPI. According to local citizens, there are a number of public health and safety concerns about the towers as well as numerous complaints about radio interference. I strongly urge your office to investigate these complaints and, if appropriate, delay KRPI's application for license renewal until these concerns are alleviated.

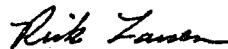
As you know, KRPI's operating permit is now up for renewal and the licensing process solicits public input. A local organization, Ferndale Residents Against High-Power Radio Interference, has formed to compile and present community-wide concerns about the KRPI towers.

Since 1998, residents of Ferndale have complained about adverse effects from the operation of this high-power, 50,000-watt station. The complaints include, but are not limited to, instances of RF burns, no warning signs or beacons present at the site, and radio-frequency interference with amateur radio stations, local and long distance telephone reception, computer systems, and public address systems at schools, churches, and other organizations.

The citizens are not seeking complete shutdown of the radio station, but are very concerned with its impact on public health. With KRPI currently applying for an application renewal, it is my hope that the Federal Communications Commission will take this opportunity to thoroughly review these concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER