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Peter Doyle
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street NW
Washington, DC 20554
Re: Challenge to FCC license for KZYX

Dear Mr. Doyle,

Recently I have been told that legal costs for KZYX to respond to FCC requests, for information concerning complaints from area residents, are now close to or over \$20,000.

Can you tell me what action you are taking concerning KZYX licensing, and what you are requiring that has generated such a cost? And why?

I am a member of KZYX and have been, since its beginning twenty-five years ago. My husband is a volunteer programmer of Chamber Music Showcase (classical music on a smaller scale) and has been-- also for twenty-five years-- providing music and commentary with this particular form of classical music, to the listening public. The community has a large number of classical musicians. Commercial radio does not play much classical music here in our rural area, and virtually no chamber music. The station has a brilliant classical (and other types of music) program, from volunteer local musicians.

The service area for KZYX is large, in Northern California, mostly agricultural (wine grapes, timber, and now marijuana) with difficult terrain and many problems with transmission, similar to the difficulties encountered by telecommunications services, and dispatch for emergency services such as fire, ambulance, and law enforcement. Keeping communications facilities operational is difficult, expensive, and a continual effort for all these agencies.

Mendocino, parts of Sonoma, Lake and Humboldt counties are included in the service area which extends from the Pacific Coast to Clear Lake and from Cloverdale to Garberville. People in this area live in small cities (largest around 12,000) to isolated

cabins at the ends of a long dirt road. We are diverse and almost pathologically insistent on staying that way. Whatever the station offers in programming will be enthusiastically received by some and bitterly rejected by others.

For the past few years we have been informed repeatedly, by a small group claiming to be directors, members, or former members, or former programmers or just disaffected listeners—that they have filed complaints with you regarding violations of the terms of the KZYX license, and implying that the station is on the verge of having its license revoked.

Statements of purported official complaints have been in the form of vitriolic personal attacks on station management, published in local papers and lists, ranging from opposition to programming decisions to allegations of fiscal impropriety. Often they cite grievances against former management, or even decisions made by the personnel who founded the station a quarter of a century ago. Some come, as near as I can tell from a person who wants to be paid to be a volunteer programmer, some from former programmers who feel their work is so excellent that they should not be asked to conform to your rules concerning content and language, and others who resent being asked to be civil to other station volunteers and staff.

Could you please let us know what charges you have received concerning station management, from whom, what action you are considering about KZYX's license, and what you have done to solicit response from members or verification of charges from those who have laid them?

I think the management are working hard, and doing what they can to provide news and entertainment enjoyed by members. I know they fret over insurance of compliance with FCC rules, trying to enforce them against all odds given the anarchistic bent of the local population. I know that they work constantly to get enough money to continue, and to overcome the many technical impediments of geography and obsolete equipment, and lately, cost of legal defense against ill-founded accusations. Please let us know if there are charges, if there is a threat, what you are doing concerning this issue, and what we may do to get you any information you might need.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Eugenia Herr