

KPLU takeover by KUOW (proposed)
Nov. 18, 2015

Request: DENY

RATIONAL: Prevent known poor performers from using PUBLIC money to destroy a valuable private entity, developed over decades, that large numbers of the public have come to rely on.

I'm a big supporter of free enterprise, so going against a core principle in this request. What PLU created, they should be able to destroy. Except in this case--KPLU WAS BUILT UPON PUBLIC AIRWAYS--your charter to defend. If they no longer want it, they could give/sell it to their employees. The LAST THING that should happen is destruction by another governmental body.

Of course, KUOW does not intend to "destroy it", that would be stupid. And Redhook beer tastes the same as before Bud came along. And the Sonics are still in Seattle, perfectly happy with the arena the community spent millions to renovate. Why not take their 8 million and fix their own station? Well, if they BUY OUT THE COMPETITION--they don't have to worry about getting KUOW working.

CONSIDER THIS: KPLU just concluded a fall fund drive in a record setting two days! What a lush takeover target. I bet a lot of people are wishing they had their money back. Approving this sale could send a SHOCK WAVE all across the public radio landscape.

I recently moved to Texas and support two stations there (Houston and Shreveport). Their fund drives linger on painfully for weeks. Red River Radio still fell short and had to give up NPR for a while. Why can't KUOW buy them? (Still a lot better than KUOW.)

BACKGROUND: I moved to Tacoma in 1980. I listened to KUOW then, because I'm more a classical fan than Jazz. Over the years, the comprehension and improvements in the KPLU programs were impossible to ignore. The quality was startling. All the while, KUOW declined. Then they added a weekend bolt of BLUES brilliance. I was hooked, and still am, despite the fact I live 2500 miles away.

PLEASE SAVE THIS STAR FROM THOSE....PEOPLE.

Joe Flarity