

Monday, June 3, 2019

FCC
Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FCC Mailroom

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you in protest of the sale of WUEV 91.5 in Evansville, Indiana to WAY FM. WUEV's facility number is 69106. The file numbers for this transaction are 20190528AAM and 20190529AAY. The manner that the University of Evansville has gone about the sale of WUEV has been suspicious and underhanded. The university has purposely excluded those who work at WUEV as well as alumni from discussions about the sale of the radio station. Not only that, but the University of Evansville has not yet publicized the 30 day comment period about the FCC filing (personally I believe they will not publicize it until about day 29 or 30 so as to limit the possible protests of the sale). In addition, the University waited until the summer break to announce the sale of WUEV so as to purposely exclude students from voicing their concerns.

WUEV 91.5 has been a staple of the Evansville, Indiana community for 68 years. The programming currently found on WUEV cannot be found anywhere else in the Evansville community (including the award winning programs in jazz and rap and an internationally award-winning and Peabody nominated children's program). If the sale of WUEV is allowed to proceed, this programming will be eliminated from the tri-state listening area of WUEV.

While the University has stated it was a "strategic decision with the long-term interest of our students as our most important consideration," nothing could be farther from the truth. WUEV failed to consult affected students and station alumni about this decision. Other options could have been reached that would not involve the sale of the station. However, the University of Evansville chose to ignore those other options and proceed with the sale of WUEV despite continuing protest from students and alumni.

I worked at WUEV from 1996-1999. I worked mostly on the show "Rated G." "Rated G" is a children's radio program. During my time working on WUEV, the show won several Marconi Awards, a Gabriel Award, and was nominated for a Peabody Award. Working on WUEV was one of the highlights of my undergraduate experience at the University of Evansville. I learned skills there that I could not learn elsewhere. It is so disheartening to learn that my alma mater has decided to sell the station without allowing the right and proper consultation and input from concerned students and alumni. I am saddened that future generations of students will not be allowed to share in the the positive life-affirming experiences at WUEV that I had. I am heart-broken that the city of Evansville, Indiana and the Tri-State area is about to lose a part of the community that has been around for 68 years. I am hoping that in writing this letter, the FCC will step in and prevent this sale and protect the public. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Tom Varner
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