

**From:** Freddy Topaz <fred[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 6, 2014 10:39 PM  
**To:** ATR-LT3-ASCAP-BMI-Decree-Review <ASCAP-BMI-Decree-Review@ATR.USDOJ.GOV>  
**Subject:** Consent Decree Review

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am trying to get started as a songwriter/publisher, and while the Internet is a useful tool to get my music out into the public marketplace, I find myself getting discouraged when I learn that a song of mine would need to be played 1 million times on Internet radio for me to earn less than \$20. That is not what I would call fair compensation for my work, especially since (unfortunately) some listeners capturing my song from Internet radio would then feel no need to legitimately purchase it.

Times have changed, and I would welcome changes to the rates songwriters are compensated by radio stations, especially Internet radio. I do not claim to be an expert in all of this, but if the lifting or modification of the very old consent decrees against ASCAP and BMI would facilitate changes to these rates, then I wholeheartedly encourage you to consider lifting or modifying those archaic restrictions.

Best regards,

Freddy Topaz

Topazius Music, ASCAP