

Dear Sirs,

I urge the Commission to reject proposals that would permit amateur radio wideband digital modes on current narrowband HF frequencies.

- Unattended wideband modes such as Winlink, require expensive equipment limiting the number of stations available during an emergency and are an inefficient use of bandwidth.
- The wide bandwidth required may actually interfere with emergency communications by the large number of amateur stations utilizing traditional narrow bandwidth modes (digital and cw).
- Winlink, a proprietary encrypted mode, is inconsistent with Part 97.
- Unattended operations are also inconsistent with amateur radio operations.
- During emergencies, the Commission has authority to issue waivers allowing the use of wideband modes as was the case recently following the hurricane in Puerto Rico.

For these reasons the Commission should not permit routine use of wideband modes on current narrow bandwidth frequencies.

Sincerely,
Richard F Burroughs, N5KIP