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MAY 29 1998

FCC MAIL ROOM

RM_9267

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Dear Sirs:

On April 22, the Land Mobile Communications Council filed a petition with the Federal Communications Commission (designated RM-9267) that seeks to reallocate the frequency bands 420-430 and 440-450 MHz for the use of the Private Mobile Radio Service. These bands are now heavily used by radio amateurs, operating in the Amateur Radio Service, for a variety of public service and public interest communications. The reallocation proposed by LMCC is incompatible with these operations.

I personally have a fair amount of money invested in a 440 mhz repeater system providing communications for many Amateurs in the Knoxville, TN area. This petition would be very detrimental to me and the community.

I hope that the FCC turns down this petition.

Thank you,
WD4LUR
Dan Newby
480 Raccoon Valley Road
Powell, TN 37849

Dan Newby 5-22-98

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MAY 29 1998

FCC MAIL ROOM

Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington DC, 20554

RE: RM9267

Gentlemen,

I am a member of the San Diego County Sheriff Radio Auxiliary Civil Emergency Service. This R.A.C.E.S. team provides much needed communications capability for the County Sheriff. The San Diego County R.A.C.E.S. organization is managed by the Emergency Planning Detail division of the San Diego County Sheriff Department on authority granted by the San Diego Operational Area, Unified Disaster Council, County Office of Disaster Preparedness. The R.A.C.E.S. team mission is to operate and maintain Public Safety, and other communications systems and to perform communications services to assist government officials in the protection of life and property by providing accurate communications in an efficient manner. The R.A.C.E.S. team is deployed for such events as Search and Rescue operations, Plane crashes, Hazardous material removal, Large Fire Storms, Floods, Earth quakes, Riots, Damage assessment, and to maintain public safety during Parades, races, and Marches. The R.A.C.E.S. Team also provides VITAL communications between State, County, and City Governments. This communications includes Damage assessment data of: Transportation systems, Water delivery systems, Utilities, Hospital capabilities, Buildings, Bridges, Dams, and Highways. The Team also collects data on the number of fatalities and people injured. This data is used by various Municipalities to help mitigate the effects of a disaster.

The R.A.C.E.S. Team is a highly trained and professional in its operations. We Communicate directly with the San Diego County Office of Disaster Preparedness, and the California Office of Emergency Services. We are a member of the Unified Disaster Council. As members of this elite team, we train many hours on our own time to make sure we are at the peak of performance, and capability. We supply are own uniforms, FCC type accepted Radio equipment, and repeater systems. The R.A.C.E.S. Team Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV), is totally equipped to communicate on all frequencies that would be used during a disaster. This ERV is in high demand by the San Diego County Sheriff Dept.

All of this Communication capability is supplied FREE OF CHARGE to the tax payer, and now the LMCC is demanding that the FCC immediately reallocate the very frequencies the R.A.C.E.S. Team uses for disaster communications. The 420-440 MHz band is used for data and control links, as well as video links for sending pictures used in damage assessment. The 440-450 MHz is occupied by FM radio and repeaters used for disaster communications.

We Strongly urge the FCC to deny the demands of the LMCC. Their motive for this spectrum grab is greed to make more money. They have no interest in Public safety or Disaster communications!!

Sincerely,



BRUCE HAPT
8267 1APT7 DR

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MAY 23 1989
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Before the

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)
)
An Allocation of Spectrum for)
Private Mobile Radio Services) RM-9267
)

To: The Secretary,
Federal Communications Commission

STATEMENT OF OPPOSITION TO RM-9267

I am writing in opposition to the Land Mobile Communications Council's proposal to re-allocate the 420-430 MHz and 440-450 MHz frequency spectrum to commercial, private, land mobile applications. Instead, I ask that the Commission change the Amateur allocation from secondary to co-primary with the U.S. government. Prior to the Cold War era, the Amateur Radio Service was a primary status user of these frequencies. With the tremendous success of the modern "no code" Technician license and the high growth of Amateur UHF operations, now is the time to restore Amateur Radio's historic primary status within the 420-450 MHz band.

The 420-450 MHz Amateur allocation is the second most used Amateur VHF/UHF band. The LMCC has requested "sharing" this band with Amateur operations yet provides no explanation for how "sharing" might occur. Based on the history of "sharing" with commercial services (particularly the example of AVL companies "sharing" 902-928 MHz who ordered hams off the air), "sharing" means that Amateur operations will be evicted from the band. This is what happens when commercial, for profit services "share" with not-for-profit, community service oriented Amateur Radio operations.

Amateur Radio has and will continue to share its VHF/UHF allocations with *mutually compatible* services and operations. These have included, the U.S. government, the U.S. military, NOAA doppler wind shear radar and other government radio location services. Amateur Radio has a long and proud history of supporting the U.S. armed forces and NOAA through the National Weather Service's SkyWarn system. For these reasons, there is a *mutual interest in sharing between compatible services* like Amateur Radio and the U.S. government. However, there are *no mutual interests* in common with for-profit private land mobile

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services; "sharing", as in the AVL example, will result in the loss of 420-430 and 440-450 MHz by the Amateur service, which will prove devastating to the mission of the Amateur Radio service.

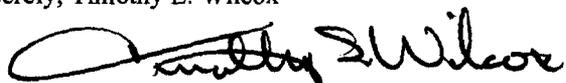
Many government agencies and non-profit disaster relief organizations would be tremendously harmed by the loss of the Amateur 420-430 and 440-450 MHz allocations. The following is a partial list of agencies that I have assisted with providing emergency communications via Amateur Radio using the 420-450 MHz band: State Of California, Calif. Dept of Forestry, and U.S. Forest Service VIP program has full access to use this state wide repeater linked system in a event of a disaster such earthquakes, Floods, Fire, Civil Unrest, or any other natural causes.

Private and for-profit radio services do not have mutually compatible interests with the Amateur Radio Service. Sharing between private land mobile and the Amateur Radio Service, as proposed by the LMCC, will not work. The 420-450 MHz band is the second most used VHF/UHF Amateur Radio allocation. The loss of these frequencies will cause severe disruption to the mission of Amateur Radio, as specified in C.F.R. Title 47 Part 97.1, and will render severe harm to the Amateur's ability to support numerous government and non-profit relief agencies.

Southwest Remote Radio Club is a primary user of the UHF 420-450 Mhz Spectrum. If the club were to relocate to 1.2 Ghz the cost for new equipment, repeater, link radios, duplexers, cabling, antennas, yagi's, etc could cost on average of 12 to 15 thousand dollars per site. This Club has 29 sites throughout California, Western Arizona, Southern Utah, Southern & Central & Nevada with 420-430 linking paths between radio sites up to 150 miles apart we accomplish this on UHF. If moved to 1.2 Ghz on the long distance sites 1-2 additional sites would be needed. Then again cost of additional equipment between these sites as 1.2Ghz doesn't travel the distance like 420-450 Mhz. If this proposal were to go through to LMCC this would be a TOTAL devastation to the Amateur community, this Club, and many other Clubs.

I respectfully request that you DENY the request of the LMCC to share the Amateur radio allocations at 420-430 and 440-450 MHz. Instead, I request that the Commission restore Amateur Radio's historic co-primary status in the entire band 420-450 MHz.

Sincerely, Timothy L. Wilcox

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy L. Wilcox". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "T".

Timothy L. Wilcox, KF6FM
7215 Goldboro Lane
Riverside, Ca, 92506-6106

May 24, 1998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)
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An Allocation of Spectrum for)
Private Mobile Radio Services) RM-9267
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To: The Secretary,
Federal Communications Commission

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The 420-450 MHz Amateur allocation is the second most used Amateur VHF/UHF band. The LMCC has requested "sharing" this band with Amateur operations yet provides no explanation for how "sharing" might occur. Based on the history of "sharing" with commercial services (particularly the example of AVL companies "sharing" 902-928 MHz who ordered hams off the air), "sharing," means that Amateur operations will be evicted from the band. This is what happens when commercial, for profit services "share" with not-for-profit, community service oriented Amateur Radio operations.

Amateur Radio has and will continue to share its VHF/UHF allocations with *mutually compatible* services and operations. These have included the U.S. government, the U.S. military, NOAA Doppler wind shear radar and other government radiolocation services. Amateur Radio has a long and proud history of supporting the U.S. armed forces and NOAA through the National Weather Service's SkyWarn system. For these reasons, there is a *mutual interest in sharing between compatible services* like Amateur Radio and the U.S. government. However, there are *no mutual interests* in common with for-profit private land mobile

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services; "sharing", as in the AVL example, will result in the loss of 420-430 and 440-450 MHz by the Amateur service, which will prove devastating to the mission of the Amateur Radio service.

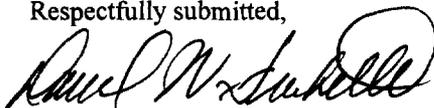
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Private and for-profit radio services do not have mutually compatible interests with the Amateur Radio Service. Sharing between private land mobile and the Amateur Radio Service, as proposed by the LMCC, will not work. The 420-450 MHz band is the second most used VHF/UHF Amateur Radio allocation. The loss of these frequencies will cause severe disruption to the mission of Amateur Radio, as specified in C.F.R. Title 47 Part 97.1, and will render severe harm to the Amateur's ability to support numerous government and non-profit relief agencies.

As a repeater owner in California and Oregon, and utilizing the 420-450 amateur bands for linking, remote base, repeater and autopatch operations, I feel that the reallocation of the UHF 420-450 amateur band to secondary status would be detrimental to myself, other repeater owners, and the amateur community as a whole. It would also be prohibitively expensive to rechannel or replace the existing equipment. Furthermore, my repeater systems are used for emergency purposes on an as need basis, by law enforcement, local governments, and state offices. This proposal will seriously compromise these systems, should the reallocation be enacted.

I respectfully request that you DENY the request of the LMCC to share the Amateur radio allocations at 420-430 and 440-450 MHz. Instead, I request that the Commission restore Amateur Radio's historic co-primary status in the entire band 420-450 MHz.

Respectfully submitted,



Dave Frechette, K7QT

Dave Frechette, K7QT

7231 Kensington Court

Highland, CA., 92346-3065

909-862-0475

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MAY 20 1998
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Ray J. Vaughan, KD4BBM
P.O. Box 5227
Miami Lakes, FL 33014

Wednesday, May 27, 1998

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Comments Opposing RM-9267

Dear Sir:

I am filing these comments opposition to Petition for Rulemaking RM-9267, filed by the Land Mobile Communications Council.

I have been an amateur radio operator for 7 years. I hold a Technician class license, callsign KD4BBM, and I am an active user of amateur radio bands ranging from 50 MHz to 1.2 GHz. I also hold a General Radiotelephone Operator License (PG-7-15266). I'm very active in the telecommunication industry, both broadcasting and two-way. In fact, I also have licenses that could benefit from this RM, WPCN264, WNIT409 and KAF9118.

This spectrum serves many purposes, and is, in fact, the second most used band for local amateur communications. Given the congestion in the 144 MHz band, many emergency networks have moved to the ham 440 band. I own two repeaters that are used for emergency communications by the Miami-Dade County Office of Emergency Management and the local chapter of the American Red Cross.

This band is so active, there's actually a waiting list in this area for repeater coordinations. Given our band plan, 120 repeater pairs are available in any given area. This are all occupied here in Miami, Florida. Before, after, and even during Hurricane Andrew, the 144 and 440 MHz bands were very busy in Miami. With the local FCC EIC approval, our repeaters were even used by non-ham groups, such as the National Guard, to provide relief communication.

I know the proposal says that we can co-exist... but I feel their total lack of data or research indicates the truth, this band can NOT be effectively shared by two so similar uses. The present sharing between amateur and government uses does seem to work. We understand that at any time, we may be ordered to shut down.

Clearly, the adoption of RM-9227 would NOT serve the public interest.

Respectfully submitted,



Ray J. Vaughan, KD4BBM

Enclosure: Original and four photocopies

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CHESTER BROWN
186 BEECH ST
FLORAL PARK N.Y.
11418

TO THE SECRETARY,
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

ON BEHALF OF OVER 700,000 ACTIVE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS I'D LIKE TO VOICE MY OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED RM 9267. OUR FREQUENCY SPECTRUM FROM 420 MHZ THRU 450 MHZ IS USED HEAVILY BY AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS AROUND THE COUNTRY. I PERSONALLY HAVE AN INVESTMENT OF OVER \$15,000.00 IN RADIO EQUIPMENT IN THIS SPECTRUM. MY RADIO SYSTEM USES MULTIPLE FREQUENCIES FOR POINT TO POINT COMMUNICATION ESPECIALLY DOWN AT THE 420 MHZ FREQUENCY AREA.

MY EQUIPMENT IS SET UP TO INTERFACE WITH PUBLIC DISASTER COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES. I ALSO USE THE SPECTRUM FOR ELECTRONIC EXPERIMENTATION. ELABORATE INTERSPECTRUM LINKING IS THE NORM FOR THIS FREQUENCY BAND.

WHERE WILL WE TAKE OUR OPERATIONS, AND WHO WILL PAY FOR OUR FINANCIAL LOSS IF RM 9267 IS IMPLEMENTED. AS YOU KNOW, WE ALREADY SHARE THE SPECTRUM WITH MILITARY OPERATIONS AND MUTUALLY GET ALONG VERY WELL. THIS WILL NOT BE THE CASE WITH SHARING THE BAND WITH COMMERCIAL INTERESTS.

WE NEED ALL THE PRESENT FREQUENCY SPACE WE PRESENTLY HAVE. I BELIEVE THAT BEHIND THE FREQUENCY GRAB IS A PLOY TO ASK FOR THE MOON, BUT THEN RECEIVE LESS THAN WHAT WAS ASKED.

WE AMATEURS WILL HAVE HUGE MONETARY LOSSES IF RM 9267 IN ANY FORM IS ENACTED. AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS AND THEIR FAMILIES CONSTITUTE A LARGE VOTING BLOCK. BE ASSURED, WE WILL BE WATCHING CLOSELY, TO THE OUTCOME OF RM 9267.

A SOLUTION TO THE FREQUENCY ALLOCATION REQUEST COULD BE OUR PREVIOUSLY LOST FREQUENCY BAND AT 220 MHZ. PLEASE GIVE MY LETTER OF CONCERN YOUR FULL ATTENTION.

THANK YOU,
Chester Brown
CHESTER BROWN, WB2AHK

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
File Number RM-9267
May 25, 1998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Sir:

We Amateur radios operators living in Lake Havasu City Az. (approximately 300) are surrounded by mountainous terrain which prevents normal radio communications from going very far. We have established several linked 70 centimeter systems which provide links for the eight western states.

Our wives and other family members must go out of town for various reasons and these linked 440 systems are our only means of communications with them. They provide a valuable safety net while traveling across an unforgiving desert where temperatures routinely reach in the high 100's.

We are involved in ARES, RACES and provide a number of other public service communications for County and City government agencies.

On a personal note, the loss of the 440 band would be devastating to my family as my wife and I care for my elderly parents who require frequent medical attention and necessitate travel to Los Angeles or Phoenix. One of us must transport while the other stays at home to monitor the radio to provide support.

Please do not allow private industry to take our 70 centimeter band. It is highly populated by amateurs and is a very effective in providing emergency communications.

Thank you for your consideration.

John S. Hunter

John S. Hunter kk7cx
2778 Indian Pipe Lane
Lake Havasu City, AZ. 86406

520 453-2803

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A B C D E OET



THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC.

Leadership Official



• ASST. SECTION MANAGER • SECTION EMERG. COORDINATOR • SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER • AFFILIATED CLUB COORDINATOR • BULLETIN MANAGER
• EMERGENCY COORDINATOR • DISTRICT EMERG. COORDINATOR • NET MANAGER • OO COORDINATOR • INFORMATION COORDINATOR
• STATE GOVERNMENT LIAISON • TECHNICAL COORDINATOR • ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER • NTS OFFICER

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FCC MAIL ROOM



Ken Akasofu KL7JCQ

ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator
Eastern New York Section
316 Titusville Rd, Apt 4
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603-2944

TEL: (914) 485-9617, FAX: (914) 485-2402, E-Mail: KL7JCQ@iname.com

Subject: RM-9267

5/26/1998

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to you to express my comments regarding RM-9267.

As a professional employed in the high technology sector, I do appreciate both the commercial and private needs for frequency spectrum and the benefits they provide. However, the LMCC's petition to reallocate the 420-430 and 440-450 MHz range has me greatly concerned.

This frequency range is currently used heavily by amateur radio operators nationwide for emergency and disaster relief activities. Having these frequencies taken away would seriously hinder their ability to provide communications in the event of an emergency or a disaster, which will sooner or later result in many lives needlessly being lost.

As a coordinator of amateur radio emergency communications for fifteen counties in New York, our organization's dependencies include an extensive infrastructure of amateur radio equipment on the 420-450MHz band, including several voice repeaters, repeater links, and extensive packet networks. These all exist as a result of over 30 organizations and countless volunteers in our jurisdiction who have invested much money and personal time to build up and maintain them over the past several years. Much of this equipment is supported by state and county governments as well, both in terms of time and money. There is also a sizable investment made in personally-owned equipment by individual hams which are routinely used for public service and emergency drills in addition to actual emergencies. It would be devastating to our emergency response and disaster relief abilities if all of this were to become unavailable, and the costs to tear down the current infrastructure and build new ones for another band would be prohibitive.

I have examined the list of organizations comprising the LMCC. All of them are very respectable groups in their area of specialty. However, for most of them their function is limited to the interests of their own organization, and many of the activities they represent would be seriously hindered if a disaster should occur. In contrast, hams are not limited to serving a single agency and have historically established reliable communications in adverse conditions all over the country largely due to their versatility, operating skills, and deployment of the equipment they have invested in. This has been proven through the countless times hams have provided emergency communications for agencies including, but not limited to, the American Red Cross (i.e. during phone outages in severe weather, hams can provide communications between shelters to help coordinate the transportation of supplies), hospitals (i.e. provide communications throughout a site when their phone system fails), and the National Weather Service (providing reports of impending disasters such as a tornado and other severe weather details not normally detectable through conventional radar). The National Traffic System serves countless individuals during a disaster for a variety of purposes including passing health and welfare messages to loved ones across the country when conventional means of communications fail.

420-450 MHz is a very important band to preserve for amateur radio operators for the sake of the millions of people who have been and will in the future need amateur radio operators to help recover from a disaster or save their lives. It is because of this that I sincerely hope that the FCC does not reallocate this crucial portion of the spectrum.

Sincerely Yours,

Ken Akasofu

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087



From Richard & Laura Wilson
P.O. Box 216
Honeybrook, Pa. 1944

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MAY 29 1998

To Federal Communications Commission
Subject In the matter of RM-9267
To whome it may concern
FCC Commissioners

JUN 1 1998

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Laura A. Wilson (N3 SUU) & Richard R. Wilson (N3 OUR) We do strongly oppose LMCC proposal for limiting the use of amature 440-450 MHZ band . This will create a financial burden on us and other amatures using this repeater.. We feel that we are being singeled out a vote no ! On RM-9267. We would like for your support for the amature and what iti means to be a citizen of a free country . Letting t he people who can most afford research and development of new frequencies .

cc: Federal Communications Comissioners

Laura A. Wilson N3 OUR

Richard R. Wilson N3 OUR
PO Box 216
Honeybrook, Pa. 19344

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19034 Laurel Drive
Los Gatos, CA 95033

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RM 9267
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St., NW
Washington, DC 20554

May 27, 1998

RE: RM 9267

On April 22, the Land Mobile Communications Council filed a petition with the Federal Communications Commission (designated RM-9267) that seeks to reallocate the frequency bands 420-430 and 440-450 Mhz for the use of the Private Mobile Radio Service. These bands are now heavily used by radio amateurs, operating in the Amateur Radio Service, for a variety of public service and public interest communications. The band is also used for many experimental purposes by radio amateurs for satellite communications, EME, remote links, and data transmissions. The reallocation proposed by LMCC is incompatible with these operations.

As a licensed radio amateur for nearly 40 years, I am dismayed by the LMCC proposal. I personally have over \$1000 invested in Amateur Radio Equipment for use on this band. My radio club also has a substantial investment in repeater transmitters and antenna installations on this band. This repeater system is indispensable to emergency communications here in the Los Gatos, CA. area.

Furthermore, the LMCC proposal does not support the use of additional spectrum. The fact is that many, if not all of the proposed expansion uses of the LMCC can be better accomplished through the use of other technologies now available in the PCS area. Two way paging, PCS telephones, and other wireless data methods are or will soon be widely available.

In addition, if the Government does in fact give up its primary position in this band the band then should revert to the Amateur Service which held primary status in this band until the Cold War defense requirements pushed the Amateur Service into secondary status. I call upon the FCC to restore the Amateur Service to Primary position in this band if in fact the Government ever relinquishes the spectrum.

Before allocating any spectrum away from the Amateur Service I also remind the Commission that the Senate and House are considering bills to protect the Amateur Service from raids like this on its spectrum allocations. Accordingly, it is inappropriate for the Commission to act favorably on the LMCC petition at this time.

In closing, I remind the Commission that the last time the Commission acted on a similar petition it re-allocated a portion of the Amateur 220 Mhz band on the basis of technology that was never put in place. The spectrum was not used for the original purpose for which it was taken from the Amateur Service. The failure to return this allocation to the Amateurs and the allocation of it to commercial services was a great injustice to the Amateur Service. The LMCC petition is in the same category of an unjustified land grab. The LMCC is seeking to bypass the spectrum auctions mandated by Congress for commercial services.

Accordingly, I urge the Commission to **REJECT LM 9267**

Sincerely yours,



David M. Aronovitz, Electrical Engineer
Amateur Radio Operator K1LPI, Life Member ARRL

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MAY 29 1998

RE: RM 9267

FCC MAIL ROOM

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Federal Communications Commission
Secretary of the FCC, Room 222
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20554

5/27/98

Dear Commission:

I am submitting this letter to log my strong opposition to the petition currently under consideration, RM-9267. I've been a licensed Amateur Radio operator for 21 years and have focused much of my involvement around activities made possible by the very frequency segments identified for reallocation.

During my years as an active amateur I've participated in many public service events/activities. These include simple March of Dime and parade events to health and welfare communications during some of the California earthquakes. Providing these services are very rewarding and allow the amateur community to give the public a very valuable tool for no charge. Amateur assistance is usually only noticed by the public after the service has been up and running for while. We're just there without any big fan-fair.

Some events can be, and are, handled via simple direct communication while many others, specially natural disasters, need to take place either over a wide area or between distant points. This is where the 420-450 spectrum is heavily used. I live in Southern California where the utilization of this spectrum by the amateur community is extremely high. The 440-450 portion is heavily populated with repeater systems while the 420-430 portion provides the much needed

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inter-tie communication and control between systems. Many of these systems are very complicated and costly to install and maintain. Amateur radio has proven to be a successful secondary user to the government radiolocation operations currently in use on this band. How are such involved and wide-spread amateur systems to function in a secondary role to PMRS as proposed in the petition?

The 420-450 spectrum forms the heart of the non-high frequency amateur community. And who is the amateur community? The public. Public access to the radio spectrum needs to be retained for now and the future instead of it all being turned over to commercialism. I continue to this day to be pleasantly surprised at the interest and appreciation that the public has when exposed to amateur radio. This is especially true with the youth of today even when there are computers and cellular phones tugging at their every turn. It's the power of radio - Amateur Radio. Lets preserve it.

I strongly urge the Commission to DENY the above specified portions of RM-9267. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ken Rice
WD6DQL
18668 Caminito Cantilena #257
San Diego, CA

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RM-9267

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

MAY 29 1998

FCC MAIL ROOM

INDEPENDENT RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.
POST OFFICE BOX 523
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO 45501

Thursday, May 28, 1998

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
ROOM 222
1919 M STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

Reference: Public Comment on Petition for Rulemaking RM-9267

The Independent Radio Association, Inc. understands that on or about April 22, 1998 the Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) filed a Petition for Rulemaking to the Commission, which was designated RM-9267. In their petition, the LMCC requested that 420 to 430 MHz and 440 to 450 MHz be reallocated from primary military radiolocation use to the Private Mobile Radio Service, with the Amateur Radio Service remaining as secondary user. After careful review, the Independent Radio Association, Inc. has concluded that such a reallocation would seriously harm the Amateur Radio Service.

The LMCC believes that amateur radio can share these bands with the Private Mobile Radio Service in much the same way we share them with military radiolocation operations. This conclusion is unrealistic. Military use of the bands is rare and, for the most part, unobtrusive. The Private Mobile Radio Service would make regular use of hundreds of frequency pairs in these bands, making many of them completely unusable by amateur radio.

Amateur radio operators have invested many millions of dollars in 420 MHz to 450 MHz equipment, much of it narrowly designed to work with repeaters in the 440 to 450 MHz subband. Reallocation would render many of these repeaters useless, if the Private Mobile Radio Service chooses to tolerate them at all. About one-third of the Independent Radio Association's membership is retired and on fixed incomes, so equipment made unusable by reallocation will not necessarily be replaceable. And since amateur radio equipment is not type accepted for Private Mobile Radio Service use, there will be no domestic market for used 440 MHz to 450 MHz ham radios.

Reallocation would have a chilling effect on manufacturers of amateur radio equipment. Since the reallocation of the lower two megaHertz of the 220 MHz to 225 MHz amateur band, relatively few products have been introduced for the 222 MHz to 225 MHz band. The Commission can expect history to repeat itself if most of the 420 MHz to 450 MHz band is turned over to the Private Mobile Radio Service.

The loss of these subbands would have an impact far beyond the Amateur Radio Service. Let's examine the effect on Clark County, Ohio, just one of 3042 counties, towns, parishes, etc. in the United States, for the month of May.

On May 7th and 8th, the Independent Radio Association and other Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) members used 440 MHz repeaters and other Amateur Radio Service assets to conduct weather spotter nets for the National Weather Service and perform damage assessments and shelter communications for the Clark County (Ohio) Chapter of the American Red Cross following flash floods in the City of Springfield and nearby townships.

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RM-9267

page 2

On Thursday, May 21st, we supported a mass casualty response on Interstate 70 near Enon, Ohio. A charter bus carrying a Dayton, Ohio elementary school class to the Columbus Zoo was involved in a multivehicle crash, injuring a dozen students and adults. We provided an emergency communications net involving two Springfield, Ohio hospitals, the Red Cross chapters in Springfield and Dayton, and an Enon middle school where uninjured students waited for their parents.

Just one day later, our members returned to the air to support both the Clark County Emergency Management Agency and the Red Cross chapter at a scheduled hazardous materials exercise in the City of Springfield. Keep in mind that the May 21st and 22nd operations occurred during a week in which most of the nation's emergency paging equipment was off line due to a commercial satellite failure.

Will our hams continue to volunteer many millions of dollars worth of time, equipment and expertise annually if their government shows its gratitude by reducing their operating privilages every few years? If you reallocate portions of 420 to 450 MHz to the Private Mobile Radio Service, we will probably all find out together. Unfortunately, much like current global warming theories, by the time you confirm that a problem has developed, it may be much too late to reverse the effects.

Consider these things before acting on RM-9267.

Respectfully,



Michael A. Schulsinger, President
Independent Radio Association, Inc.

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MAY 29 1998
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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May 23, 1998

Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 "M" Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: RM-9267

I wish to strongly oppose the request by the Land Mobile Communications Council for a primary allocation in the Amateur Radio Service 70-cm band. The voice and low speed data operations proposed by the LMRR are totally incompatible with Amateur operations. The loss of a large portion of the 70-cm band would cause a major disruption to the Amateur Service, since this is the second most popular Amateur Band.

One of the reasons for the existence of the Amateur Service is to provide a pool of operators and equipment capable of providing communications in time of emergency. In order to fulfill that role, a variety of frequencies are necessary. The San Diego Section of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service has found that the 70-cm band is the band of choice for operating in and around hospitals and ambulances. It penetrates buildings, providing floor to floor communications. It causes minimal interference with the 150-160 MHz public service radios in ambulances. (2 meters is unusable near an ambulance.)

The 70-cm band is also widely used for linking repeaters. Linked repeaters are also an important part of our emergency communications arsenal.

If we were to lose the 70-cm band, we could not provide the quality of emergency communications we do now.

Sincerely,



David Doan, KC6YSO
Section Emergency Coordinator
San Diego Section
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

4374 Logrono Dr.
San Diego, CA 92115

kc6yso@amsat.org

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SHERIFF-CORONER DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED COUNTY OF ORANGE
CALIFORNIA

MAY 29 1998

FCC MAIL ROOM

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BRAD GATES
SHERIFF-CORONER

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS
OF ORANGE COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

COMMUNICATIONS

RAUL RAMOS
UNDERSHERIFF

DANA POINT
LAGUNA HILLS
LAGUNA NIGUEL
LAKE FOREST
MISSION VIEJO

SAN CLEMENTE
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO
STANTON
VILLA PARK

ASSISTANT SHERIFFS
JOHN HEWITT
JERRY KRANS
DENNIS LADUCER
DOUG STORM

May 28, 1998

Federal Communications Commission
Secretary of the FCC, Room 222
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: RM-9267

Dear Commission:

The County of Orange generally supports the Petition of the Land Mobile Communications Council, RM-9267, and offers the following comments.

The County of Orange is located within the Los Angeles basin, comprised of nearly 800 square miles, with a population approaching 3,000,000 permanent residents and a significant transient tourist and workforce population. As a licensed RACES Amateur Radio station, WC6AAC, like many public safety organizations nationwide, County of Orange RACES is very active on many Amateur Radio frequencies that promote the public welfare through emergency, disaster and public service communications. The frequencies proposed for reallocation by this petition are very important to the continued success in serving the public through County of Orange RACES.

Here in Orange County, Amateur Radio has proven successful as an augmentation for the emergency communication needs of our city and County public safety first responders. In the past several years, Orange County suffered significant damage from two separate firestorms and several floods causing major damage throughout the County. In each of these incidents, RACES personnel relied on Amateur Radio frequencies in the 420-430 MHz and 440-450 MHz bands.

The entire 420-450 MHz Amateur band is extremely crowded in the Southern California area and simply could not be compressed into the 430-440 MHz sub-band for day-to-day operations, let alone for disaster situations. Daily use of these frequencies include voice repeaters, telephone interconnect, remote control of transmitters and receivers, links to other systems and Amateur Television use. They are vital to our success.

Commission approval of this or any similar allocation on this or any Amateur Radio frequency band will take away vital resources that Orange County depends on to serve the public. While the County of Orange generally supports the petition, it urges the Commission to omit the Amateur frequencies in the 420-430 and 440-450 MHz sub-bands from consideration in the proceeding.

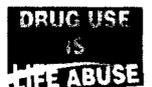
Sincerely,

Joseph W. Robben
Joseph W. Robben
Manager

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MAY 29 1998

RM - 9267

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MAY 22, 1998

AMATEUR RADIO STATION
KK7GB
James C. Liebe
904 W. Gold Creek Ridge Rd.,
Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

Office of The Secretary of FCC
Room 222
1919 M St. NW
Washington, DC. 20554

Dear Mr. Secretary, Commissioners:

The Role of Amateur Radio again is under threat within our country by petitions to the FCC from the Land Mobile Communications Council.

I am writing You to express the concern for myself and others within the Amateur Radio Service whom provide a valuable asset to our communities local and nationally. We as a Amateur Radio Service have co-existed with other services within the 440 Mhz Band, And we as Amateurs remain unselfish with an investment of effort, time and at exence for providing organized Radio Communication Services to Our Communities for saving lives and personal property during periods of accident or disaster.

The premier justification for continous access to our piece of spectrum pie is and always will be, PUBLIC SERVICE.

Several cooperative agreements and understandings shared from a local and national level provide valuable Public Service through a few to mention, Organizations for providing Emergency Services including Communications through The Amateur Radio Service within the 440 Mhz Band, and these are; National Communications Sys., American Red Cross, National Weather Service, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Association of Public Safety Communications Officials - International, The Salvation Army an our local an national Amateur Radio Emergency Services / Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (ARES/RACES), an ARRL affiliated organization.

Here on the 440 Mhz. Band... under attack, for commercial use and for profit by subscribers of The Land Mobile Communications Council; We Amateur Radio Operators, our siblings and up an coming Youth of America, must carry on the tradition and our heritage; that being the responsibility we assume for protecting all-citizens through the privileges in use on the 440 Mhz band.

Please direct to the attention of our elected Representatives the importance of our concern for loss of Presious Frequency Allowcations in place, as a Public National Treasure, THANK YOU!

Very Sincerely,



James C. Liebe, KK7GB

Included: Original & four copies.

MEMBER: BONNER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SANDPOINT, IDAHO

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MAY 19 1998

May 17, 1998

The Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Ladies and Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: RM-9267

I am writing this letter in response to a notice that was just given out on our local Amateur Radio Emergency Services Training Net. I along with 63 other members of our Local Club was informed that there was a request being made by LMCC to get access to the 420-430 and 440-450 MHz Bandwidth.

I do not feel that this would be a good idea, as what the LMCC and what we as Amateur Radio Operators use this band for are not the same. I feel it would cause serious problems for the both of us. You see for the most of the people that checked into our net this evening did so Via a UHF 440 MHz link between a repeater that is 45 miles south of Duluth and over some very rough terrain. The UHF bands is very highly used in this area for links between several repeaters and let us talk over a much larger area then the VHF band does. However, with out the two of these bands we would not be able to provide the Communications for things such as:

The National Weather Service, For sever weather watchers, or the Emergency Communications that we provide during a local Poisonous Gas spill, Or How about for the American Red Cross During Several Hurricanes and Tornadoes nation wide. All of this would not be possible if we did not have these bands to use along with or VHF Bands. You see they all tie in together very nicely. It would not be a good idea to let RM-9267 to go through.

For the reasons stated beforehand, I am opposed to RM-9267.

Respectfully,

Timothy S.A. Davich / KB0OPC

Timothy Scott Allan Davich
Amateur Radio Operator KB0OPC / Paramedic

TSAD

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
Room 222
1919 M Street NW
Washington DC 20554

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Re: Opposition to RM-9267 Land Mobile Communications Council Petition For 70 CM

Dear Sir,

Recently, the Land Mobile Communications Council filed a petition with you, RM-9267, that seeks to reallocate the frequency bands 420-430 and 440-450 MHz for the use of the Private Mobile Radio Service. It is my understanding that this new rule is yet another attempt of the private sector to obtain more frequencies at the expense of the Amateur Radio allotments.

I operate a major network in the Pacific NorthWest with 500 registered users. We have links to all points of the State including Western Washington and to neighboring States of Idaho, and Oregon. It makes possible a single system of mobile communication coverage extending beyond the limited range provided by any single repeater operation. The FM repeaters operate in the VHF and UHF frequency area. My Amateur neighbors have an even larger network with some 27 Two meter repeaters linked together with the UHF band.

The primary purpose of these systems are to provide emergency and public service communications within this area. A very long list of uses include 1980 Mt. St. Helen's eruption, Fire storm in 1991, Ice storm in 1996 and search and rescue in the mountainous areas.

Many VHF Amateur systems use the UHF band to function, even as a single repeater. In many cases these single repeater are connected together using the UHF band. The reallocation proposed by LMCC is incompatible with these operations and would destroy most of these Amateur systems. You have a lot of really upset VOTING citizens with their attention on this matter.

Please consider that the amateur frequencies are public property and a non renewable resource. Having the private sector obtain these frequencies will only solve their problems short term. They need to put their efforts into more efficient use of the spectrum they already have.

Please tell the private sector to look to the channels that are currently under used by their own kind. I would also suggest they look at developing better technology to allow more operational channels because that's the real solution. When all the frequencies are gone, that's where they will find themselves anyway.

For the above reasons I hope you will not allow the reallocation of these frequencies. I appreciate your attention in this matter.

Respectfully,


Karl H. Shoemaker
WA7YCP
President
Spokane Repeater Group
P.O. Box 67
Colbert, WA 99005

email: kshoe@juno.com

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SECRETARY F.C.C. (RM-9267)
1919 M St. N. W. Washington D.C.
Dear Sir:

A story about a farmer and his new hired man. A day's work was outlined, by noon the work was done. The Next day twice as much work was out lined. Again, by noon the work was done. He gave his hired man the afternoon off with the comment, tomorrow we'll start sorting potatoes. His instructed, put the good potatoes in bin #1, bad potatoes in bin #2, all others were to go in bin #3. After about an hour the farmer thought he would check on the hired man to see what had been accomplished. The man was flat on his back, out cold, with potato first potato in his hand. After reviving him the farmer ask, Bill, what the matter. "It's these decision, there killing." came the reply.

You have a decision to make involving some of the radio frequencies. It's not an easy decision. Both sides have given strong arguments why you should rule in their favor. The argument I would like to reinforce, is the value of Ham radio to the nation in the times of emergencies and disasters. In such time, Ham radio become indispensable. Because they are an independent self sufficient units, ham radio can remain in service when all others means of communication have failed. Power plants can fail, power and phone lines can go down. Even satellites transmission can fail. Because the Ham operator have self efficient unit, can remain on line and in service when all other types of communication have failed.

In making your decision, I hope you will not be unduly persuaded by the business potential that could come, if some of these frequencies were transferred to the business world. Just how much of a bottom line is needed to compensate for the emergency help that would not be there because of the restricted frequencies for the ham operator use?

Keith C. Olsen

Keith C. Olsen

1772 N. W. Dogwood
Roseburg, Oregon 97470

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SUBJECT: RM-9267

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MAY 29 1998

FCC MAIL ROOM

Robert T. Whitacre
4959 Harvest Meadow Road
Hilliard OH 43026

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
Room 222
1919 M Street NW
Washington DC 20554

To the Commissioners:

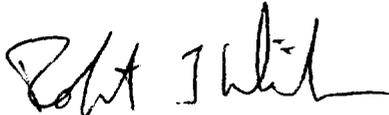
The following are my comments regarding Petition For Rule-making **RM-9267**.

I am opposed to any reallocation of 420-430 and 440-450 MHz. As a Radio Amateur, my activities would be directly affected by reallocation of these frequencies. In the central Ohio area, there is considerable usage of the 420-450 MHz band for repeaters, point to point links, and packet radio. For example, repeaters in this frequency range are used by Amateur Radio Operators to convey severe weather reports to the National Weather Service. I personally operate two repeater systems in the 440-450 MHz band, and conversion to new frequencies or bands would be costly.

Amateur Radio has not only been an enjoyable hobby of mine for over 20 years, it has also been the underpinning of a successful career as an Electrical Engineer in the wireless industry. Indeed, many of the organizations which request the reallocation of this band would not be what they are today without the talents and creativity of technical experts who got their start in Amateur Radio. I see reallocation proposals like this as destructive not only to the Amateur Service, but to the wireless industry as a whole.

I recommend that industries and agencies which require more spectrum explore technical solutions to increase capacity such as digital technology, frequency reuse, etc., before they target Amateur Radio spectrum.

Respectfully yours,



Robert T. Whitacre W8RW

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