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

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Subject: RM-9267

Gentlemen

I am writing to inform you of the effects RM-9267 would have on me and my family.

Two members of my family volunteer with a search and rescue group as a free service to the community. My communication with them when they are on a mission is through a system which utilizes the 70 cm band. The loss of this band would make communication more difficult by forcing us to use the more crowded 2 M band. The loss of the 70 cm band would make the 2 M band even more crowded. This would also render equipment that was purchased with personal funds virtually worthless. Are these private interests that want this radio spectrum going to buy all this gear from the radio amateurs? The amateur frequencies are public property and should remain public. They should not be given or sold to the private sector. The radio spectrum is not a renewable resource that can be replaced. Amateur radio has proven itself to be invaluable in emergency situations across our country many times. How could government ever replace this service of free equipment with volunteers to operate it in times of disaster.

Please consider this very carefully and do not take any of the amateur spectrum from those volunteers that serve the community and nation so well.

Sincerely

*Roger E. Baisch*

Roger E. Baisch, KC7HHG  
17815 Brook Blvd.  
Bothell, WA 98012

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RM - 9267

Dale Belcher  
14163 E. 50<sup>th</sup> Street  
Yuma, AZ 85367

May 22, 1998

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

Gentlemen:

I wish to express opposition to the Petition for Rulemaking RM - 9267.

In RM-9267, the Land Mobile Communications Council, LMCC, demands the immediate allotment of the 420 - 430 MHz and 440 - 450 MHz bands for their purposes. Under their proposal, the Amateur Radio Service would be a secondary user of this spectrum, on a not-to-interfere basis.

In this area, Yuma, Arizona, the 420 - 450 MHz spectrum is fully utilized by a variety of Amateur Radio services, primarily repeater links, and voice repeaters. We recently attempted to obtain another frequency authorization for a repeater link in this spectrum, and were told by the regional frequency coordinator that none were available. There is no way this volume of essential traffic can be shared, on a secondary basis, with the LMCC. In the remaining sector of the band, 430 - 440 MHz, 435 - 438 is allocated, on a worldwide basis, for Satellite communications, which cannot be moved, since Space hardware is already in orbit.

The repeaters and links in this band are depended upon heavily for public service communications. Yuma has a very active RACES/ARES group, and the repeaters and links are heavily utilized by members of this group. There are several good reasons why Yuma has an active RACES/ARES program:

***Yuma is isolated, 200 miles East of San Diego, and 200 miles West of Phoenix.***

Yuma sits on a particularly turbulent part of the Mexican Border. We are 60 miles East of the San Andreas Fault. Much of the city is susceptible to flooding from the Colorado and Gila Rivers.

Interstate Highway 8 and the Union Pacific Railroad both carry a high volume of hazardous material through the center of the city. There are two large military bases that store and expend huge quantities of explosive ordnance, and conduct a high volume of aircraft flights while carrying ordnance. We are subject to flooding and wind damage from summer Monsoon thunderstorms.

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The links in 420 - 450 MHz tie the local repeaters into both San Diego and Phoenix. In Hurricane Nora, which severely damaged Yuma last September, links in the 420-450 MHz band were utilized by a Red Cross mobile assistance team to maintain communications with their headquarters in Phoenix. These links were also utilized by the County's Emergency Operations Center, to communicate with their counterparts at the state level in Phoenix during that emergency. Due to the irregular, mountainous terrain in the region, it is not practicable to relocate these links into another frequency band.

There has been a huge investment, both on the part of private individuals, and on the part of local government, through the RACES program, in Amateur Equipment for the 420 - 450 MHz band in the Yuma area. The loss of this band would be a disaster to Public Service Communications, and would leave the city isolated and vulnerable in times of emergency. I urge you to reject the LMCC's request for the primary allocations in 420 - 430 and 440 - 450 MHz.

Sincerely,



Dale Belcher

Amateur Radio Licensee, W7LL

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

19 May 98

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Subject: RM-9267 Reallocation of the 420-450 MHZ band (70 cm) comment

Reference: Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) petition for rule making of reallocation of the 70 cm band.

The 440 (70 cm) band is one of the two emergency system pillars serving the Fayetteville, North Carolina area. In the past few years this band has played a vital part in providing communications prior, during and after natural disasters that have struck our community. The loss of this band would further restrict the capability of the amateur community to provide emergency communication services/system to the community.

The 190 members of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society (CFARS) recommend that FCC non-concur with the RM-9267 petition for rule making. On the bases that this action would have an adverse effect on the amateurs ability to provide emergency communication to the community and cost effectiveness of reallocation. Additionally, the LMCC should immediately conduct an extensive RF spectrum impact study to find a more suitable segment of the RF spectrum for future use.

Signed Sincerely



Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society Member

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RM-9267

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5/27/98

Offices of Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Rm. 222  
1919 M st. NW  
Washington,DC 20554

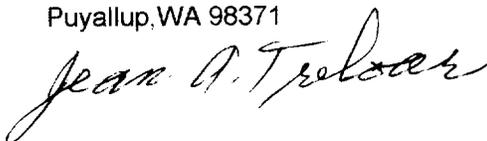
Dear Sirs,

It has been brought to my attension, that there is a request for Primary Reallocation of the 420-450 Mhz (70 cm) Band to the Private Mobile Service (PMRS). Let it be so stated that I disagree with this selling off the Amateur Radio frequencies of any kind.

Radio Amatuers all over the world have taken time to train and spent much money on equipment to be able to assist during storms,hurricains,floods,fires and in many other ways. If you allow the private sector to have the frequencies they are asking for,who knows where it will stop. There are still Radio Amateurs experamenting,and with out them where would radio,tv,cell phones and satilites be today? Emergency Services will suffer thru out the Nation with out skilled radio operators, with the equipment to step in when needed. ie ALL the cell sites are down due to over load.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mr. Jean A. Treloar  
KB7SVX  
1722 5th st SW  
Puyallup, WA 98371



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Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554  
In the Matter of

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

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 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 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:

Patton State Hospital ARES  
San Bernardino County RACES  
United States Army MARS

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

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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.

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,



Jonathan B. Montgomery, KF6FZZ

P.O. Box 227

Rimforest, CA 92378-0227

May 25, 1998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

May 27, 1998  
110 Fisherville Road  
Collierville, TN 38017-4100

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 in opposition to Petition for Rulemaking RM-9267, filed by the Land Mobile Communications Council.

I have been an amateur radio operator for over 20 years. I hold an Amateur Advanced class license, callsign KB4KA, and I am an active user of amateur radio bands ranging from 160 meters through 33 centimeters. I am also trustee for the TBONE Packet Association (KB4KB) and trustee for the Hickory With DX Club (KB4KC). In filing these comments I speak for the TBONE Packet Association, the Hickory Withe DX Club and myself.

Reallocation of primary status in 420-430 mHz and/or 440-450 mHz band segments to the Private Mobile Radio Service (PMRS) would have a significant adverse affect on the amateur radio community and on me personally. The LMCC makes the claim, without evidence or justification, that ARS stations could operate in this spectrum on a secondary basis with PMRS stations. Should PMRS activity become primary user of these frequencies, I am convinced that current Amateur Radio Service (ARS) activities would be significantly disrupted, and may prove entirely impractical.

In addition to reducing the emergency communications capability of the ARS, such disruption of long-established ARS systems would have a significant economic impact on me as well as thousands of other amateur radio operators who have made significant investments in equipment for use on these frequencies.

I designed and am personally involved in the operation and maintenance of the Tennessee Backbone Operators Network Environment (TBONE) network, a seven-site packet radio backbone between Memphis and Nashville, TN. This backbone, along with the associated Local Access Nodes (LANs), provides daily digital communications for DX PacketCluster access and linking, Internet access and keyboard to keyboard operations, and is available as alternate paths when needed for local EMA and TEMA emergency traffic and BBS forwarding. The UHF radios used for the backbone are crystal

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controlled, and a frequency change, if possible, would require new crystals and a visit to each site. These radios required costly modifications to support the bandwidth needed for 9600 bps operation. New antennas and power dividers would be required. This backbone has been operational for four years and provides an alternative to the general move to the Internet. I feel keeping an amateur radio alternative to the Internet alive for emergency purposes is worth the effort to maintain the backbone. The total investment in this system is over \$5000, not including the hours of effort required to install and maintain it.

Finally, scores of hams in the Memphis, TN area – including me – and thousands nationally own voice transceivers and data radios, which operate in the 440-450 MHz segment. The hundreds of thousands of dollars invested in this equipment would likely be lost if RM-9227 were adopted. I have another \$2300 invested in personal use UHF equipment.

These economic losses may seem small by some measures, but it should be remembered that nearly all this investment has been made by individuals or small clubs funded primarily by membership dues. This investment and dedication to maintenance has been made for reasons that have nothing to do with profit and everything to do with public service.

RM-9227 would not result solely in economic loss, however. Systems in these band segments provide important emergency communications service. For example, we are working to allow the digital network described above to be used to link "Skywarn" severe weather spotters to the National Weather Service office in Memphis, TN. These spotters are located throughout the Mid-South area consisting of eastern Arkansas, Northern Mississippi and western Tennessee. There is no guarantee that these operations could accomplish their task if they were not permitted access to 420-430 or 440-450 MHz.

I believe that adoption of RM-9227 would significantly hurt the ARS and its ability to comply with the ARS charter to serve the public interest. It would also hurt individuals who have invested in amateur radio equipment to support that charter. This petition should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,



Terry A. Cox

Amateur Radio Station KB4KA

Enclosure: Original and four photocopies

RECEIVED

JUN 2 1998

RM-9267

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

JUN 2 1998

FEDERAL COMM

Thomas R. Copley, K4YAZ  
P. O. Box 21171  
St. Petersburg, FL 33742

05/23/98

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

Dear Sir:

I am a licensed amateur radio operator (K4YAZ) and wish to comment on RM-9267, the petition for rule making in which the Land Mobile Communications Council seeks to have two-thirds of the 420-450 MHz(70cm) band reallocated to the Private Mobile Radio Service. This band is currently allocated to the amateur radio service on a secondary basis.

First of all, the 70 cm band is very popular among radio amateurs, and plays a critical role in our ability to provide emergency, public service, and public interest communications. In my home area of Tampa Bay Florida, this band is populated by many amateur repeaters, packet stations, and is heavily used for control links which control repeaters and other radio systems on different bands. Amateur TV uses the lower portion of this band and many parts of the band are used for weak signal and experimentation work.

I am personally a member of the NOAA sponsored SKYWARN program; I am a volunteer severe weather spotter active in the program. We currently use repeaters and simplex channels in the 70cm band for our weather monitoring activities. The recent increase in severe storms and tornadoes, as well as the approaching 1998 hurricane season make it critical that our weather monitoring activities continue. To do this, we need adequate communications, including the use of the current 70cm band.

Many local public service activities, such as help with parades, public sporting events such as runs, walkatons, crime and traffic watches are aided by volunteer amateur radio communicators, many using the 70cm band. This is a good band to use because of its local type of propagation.

The loss of the 70cm band to amateur radio would seriously affect the amateur community's ability to provide necessary public service and emergency communications. Many

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existing two meter (144-148MHz) repeaters are already in heavy use and many are overcrowded. The two meter band would not be able to absorb the channels lost if the 70cm band is taken out of amateur use. There is no other existing band to absorb the loss; the six meter band (50-54 MHz) is unacceptable because of the skip nature of the band, especially during the sunspot cycle. Emergency communications would suffer; critical weather nets (very important in my home state of Florida) would suffer. In short, the amateur radio community's ability to serve the nation would be seriously harmed by the loss of this spectrum space. The LMCC has offered no proposal of how they would or technically could share the band if it is reallocated to their interests. Most experts believe that such a solution is unworkable.

In conclusion, I must again strongly ask for the previous reasons stated that RM-9267 be dismissed, and that the current arrangement for amateur use of the 70cm band be retained. Again, to do otherwise would surely hurt critical communications in times of local and national emergencies.

Sincerely,

*Thomas R. Copley, K4YAZ*

Thomas R. Copley, K4YAZ

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 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 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:

- San Bernardino County RACES
- Patton State Hospital ARES Net
- Army MARS
- Central Mountain RACES
- San Bernardino County Emergency Communication System

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.

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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,



Fred H. Montgomery, KF6FZY/AAR9FH/T  
PO Box 227  
Rimforest, CA 92378  
May 28, 1998

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JUN 7 8

Comment To The Federal Communications Commission

Docket # RM9267

Amateur Radio Operator

KA6DPS

David R. Couch

0+4

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5/28/'98

I am opposed to any realication of 420 Mhz to 450 Mhz band.

These frequincies are heavily used by the amateur radio service. Amateurs have a large investment in equiment for these frequincies.

I operate amateur television in this portion of the band. Many emergencie services are using amateur television now for field information that difficult to get any other way. Due to the frequencie required for television, it would be difficult to provide this service if this proposal is approved.

Thank you for considering My coments.

David R. Couch KA6DPS

*David R. Couch*

28652 Nuevo Valley Dr.

Nuevo Ca. 92567

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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

STATEMENT OF OPPOSITION TO RM-9267

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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.

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:

- American Red Cross
- Georgia Baptist Disaster Relief

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.

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,



Lynn Anderson KF4DVN  
62 Old Farm Rd  
Marietta, GA 30068

May 17, 1998

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20554

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

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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

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land mobile 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:

- American Red Cross
- Georgia Baptist Relief Board
- American Diabetes Foundation
- Multiple Sclerosis Society

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.

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,



Steve Mays KS4KJ  
4504 Hickory Grove Drive  
Acworth, Ga 30102

May 21, 1998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

124 West Lockwood Avenue  
Suite #28118  
Webster Groves, Missouri - 63119  
20MAY98

Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, District of Columbia - 20554

Subject: RM-9267 - objection to the Land Mobile Communications Council's  
Petition for Rulemaking

Dear Mr. William Kennard:

My wife and I, being Amateur Radio operators, of the Saint Louis, Missouri area, are concerned about the effects of the petition for reallocation of parts of the 70cm - 440mc Amateur Radio Service by the Land Mobile Communication Council (LMCC). The Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) has asked you, the FCC to immediately reallocate 420 to 430 Mc and 440 to 450 Mc from the federal government to the Private Mobile Radio Service (PMRS) on a primary basis. Amateur Radio now enjoys the use of 420 to 450 Mc on a secondary basis, and the 430 to 440 Mc segment is an international allocation. The 70-cm band is the second most popular of the hobby's VHF/UHF allocations, with substantial FM repeater and other operation in the 440 to 450 Mc segment and a variety of uses in the 420 to 430 Mc segment.

This band provides the backbone of our local public service communications effort. Much of the control and linkage of the areas' club two meter, 70cm repeaters (my own, on 443.850 for one) and other bands reside on these band and much donated time, equipment and monies has been spent on maintenance and design. Voice and electronic data, mobile and fixed, satellite communications, moonbounce, even television - the list of present amateur uses is a long one, and of future uses could be even longer. The band are used for extended-range terrestrial operations calling for extremely sensitive receivers and high levels of effective radiated power, the bands are currently shared with the amateur radio on a secondary basis. They are currently shared with a primary user who has caused or received minimal interference with amateur radio activities, but the LMCC does not offer such assurances. We have experienced what happens when sharing the frequencies with similar services with our 220mc frequencies, having to add notch filters to remove the interference.

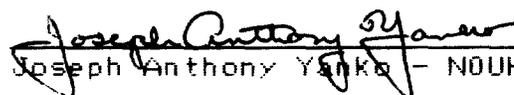
Apparently, we did need to explain all this to the little LEO (Low Earth Orbit Satellite) industry representatives, so we did just that - both at the meeting and IUP letter on May 1996. We also explained that we had to regard the matter as extremely serious. No one with the slightest background in radio communication could possibly believe that a mobile-satellite service could be introduced into either band without disrupting existing and future amateur operations. Therefore, we said, if we did not receive assurance that they would be taken off the list of candidate bands by the deadline, we would have no choice but to bring the matter to the attention of the entire membership.

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But, the short time, explained by your Mr. William T. Cross, at the FCC forum at the Dayton, Ohio Hamvention, as being normal for response, has limited the dissemination of information on the petition. But, never the less, in the time allotted it has not been met favorably with the Amateur community. With HR.3572 being introduced, bipartisan by Representatives Bilbrakis and Klink on 27MAR98, to afford a measure of protection to the these needed frequencies, and the continuing encroachment on the Amateur Bands.

Please find this letter from us as being interested in the negation of the HR.9267 petition.

Regards:

  
Joseph Anthony Yanko - NOUJH

  
Erma Ruth Yanko - NOVGG

cc: original and 4 copies FCC  
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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.

I have been a licensed Radio Amateur for the last 35 years. During that time I have participated in numerous simulated and actual emergency communications situations, including several hurricanes and one tornado strike. During those emergencies, Amateur Radio Operators, operating in the 420 - 450 MHz spectrum of the band, have proven invaluable to local emergency authorities. I need not go into details, since the historical facts speak for themselves with many local government and civic associations recognizing the contribution and life saving efforts of local "hams" providing communications, on the aforementioned frequencies, during these crises.

If this portion of the radio spectrum were turned over to private radio use, some emergency communications would, I am sure, be provided by companies utilizing the frequencies, however (1) there would most certainly be a monetary charge for these services and (2) the operators of the private radios would not have the technical expertise to erect and maintain proper emergency antennas and radios during crisis situations. Amateur Radio Operators are trained in the maintenance of communications during emergency situations, and that includes emergency field repairs of the radios, antennas and associated communications equipment. This unique technical ability possessed by "hams" (as demonstrated by passing rigorous FCC licensing examinations) assures the best possible communications in times of local and national emergency.

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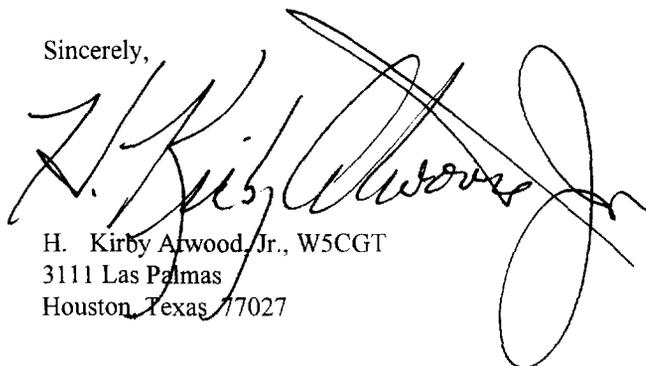
The 420-450 MHz Amateur allocation is the second most used Amateur VHF/UHF band. The LMCC has requested "sharing" this band with Amateur operations yet provides no explanation for how "sharing" might occur. Based on the history of "sharing" with commercial services (particularly the example of AVL companies "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 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.

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.

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,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Kirby Atwood, Jr.", is written over the typed name and address below.

H. Kirby Atwood, Jr., W5CGT  
3111 Las Palmas  
Houston, Texas 77027

May 26, 1998

May 26, 1998 JUN 2 1998

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of )  
  
Proposed Reallocation of ) Rm-9267  
420 to 430 MHz from the Federal )  
Government to the Private )  
Mobile Radio Service )

Dear Sirs,

I am Tabitha Meredyth (KE6VHQ) and I have been an amateur radio operator for several years. I have been very active in R.A.C.E.S. emergency communications for most of this time. I was a R.A.C.E.S. regional net controller in Hemet for over a year, during which time I helped provide communications during the Bee Canyon Fire in Riverside County, California. I have also taken part in many emergency drills for flooding and earthquakes, including a very recent Water District drill, which was district wide; the largest drill of its kind ever. I operate mostly 2m, 440, and packet repeater systems.

In addition to R.A.C.E.S., I am a member of CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams), Skywarn, AAA, and have instruction in fireline safety and CPR. It shocks me to find out that LMCC is trying to take some of our amateur radio 440 MHz frequencies.

Several times in the last year I was able to be of assistance in communication at automobile accidents, as well as call for help for myself when my car or myself became disabled. The 440 repeater system is desperately needed to secure assistance in times like these. The taking of these frequencies would affect us personally, and also make it difficult to provide emergency communication, especially on other frequencies which would suffer more "traffic jams". Thank you for your consideration.

*Tabitha Meredyth* KE6VHQ

Tabitha Meredyth  
1025 S. Gilbert #129  
Hemet, CA 92543

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# WESTERN INTERTIE NETWORK

2040 Hawley Drive, Vista, CA 92084  
Phone: 760/ 724-4020 Fax: 760/ 941-1601

May 15, 1998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington DC, 20554

RE: RM 9267

Gentlemen,

It has come to our attention that the LMCC is demanding that you immediately reallocate most of the 420 to 450 MHz band presently in the amateur radio service. We strongly oppose any such action!

The 420 to 450 MHz amateur radio UHF band is the second most popular of the amateur radio services' VHF and UHF allocations. There are thousands of FM repeaters operating daily from 440 to 450 MHz, and a variety of modes on the air every day in the 420 to 430 MHz segment, including thousands of point to point links, and a very mature amateur television fraternity.

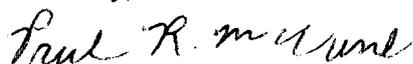
We at the Western Intertie Network (the WIN System) presently operate five high level UHF repeaters in the 440 to 450 MHz segment, covering from Southern Arizona to Central California, including all of the seven Counties of Southern California. We also operate ten point to point full duplex links.

Our group, the WIN System, has been affiliated with the San Diego County RACES emergency preparedness organization for years, and because of our wide area coverage, we have been able to handle innumerable pieces of emergency traffic during three major fires and two major earth quakes. It is impossible to estimate how many lives we have directly touched during emergencies, however, I am certain we have been a major communications force during these times of emergencies.

The WIN System also routinely operates many of our repeaters for public safety missions. Several times each year WIN System repeaters are used to handle communications at various Marathons, 10K runs, Bicycle Events, and Special Olympics Events for the handicapped. These public service communications activities would be impossible to achieve without the 440 MHz amateur band "wide area coverage" repeaters operated by the WIN System, and donated to public service.

We therefore strongly urge you to deny the demands of the LMCC. We as amateur radio operators continue to provide the above services free to the public. There is never a charge for either the 440 MHz repeater equipment, or the operators who donate their time and expertise during these times of public service. I do not think the LMCC would likewise provide such services free to the public. Their agenda is to make a profit from these frequencies, not to serve the public, free of charge, as is the amateur credo.

Sincerely,



Paul McCune, KD6ZWK  
2700 Peterson Place, Apt. 68D  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
(714) 549-3690

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