

# 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,



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

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FCC MAIL ROOM

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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.

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Sincerely,



Paige King, KF6QZY  
313 South Sultana Avenue  
Upland, CA 91786  
(909) 946-3064

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List A B C D E

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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

cc: Chairman William E. Kennard  
Commissioner Susan Ness  
Commissioner Michael Powell  
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth  
Commissioner Gloria Tristiani

COMMENTS OF BSA EXPLORER POST 599 IN OPPOSITION

TO THE REQUESTED REALLOCATION OF 420-430 MHZ AND 440-450 MHZ  
TO THE PRIVATE MOBILE RADIO SERVICES

Explorer Post 599, an affiliate member of the Boy Scouts of America, through its Executive Committee, and pursuant to the Commission's Public Notice in the above-captioned matter, hereby submits its comments in opposition to the requested reallocation of the bands 420-430 MHZ and 440-450 MHZ from Federal use to the Private Mobile Radio Services, as proposed in a Petition for Rulemaking from the Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC) which precipitated this proceeding.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. Explorer Post 599, is an affiliate of the non-profit Boy Scouts of America, and chartered locally by the Arizona Repeater Association in Phoenix Arizona. Explorer Post 599 is dedicated to the furthering of high-technology electronic knowledge and learning, as practiced through amateur radio. Membership in Explorer Post 599 is open to boys and girls, aged 14-20, who have an interest in high-tech electronic computers and communications, and in obtaining an amateur radio license, and adults with similar interests who wish to be advisors. Explorer Post 599 has been in operation for 14 years in the greater Phoenix metro area, and consists of two sub-groups, a "West-Valley" group, and an "East Valley" group. Membership varies at any given time from 25 to over 100. Explorer Post 599 consists of mostly "no-code" technician class licenses whose ability to operate and experiment on the 70 cm amateur frequencies is critical to their learning. In addition, Explorer Post 599 owns and operates a 70 cm (448.8 MHZ) repeater in the Phoenix area which provides communications in the central core Phoenix area, including Sky Harbor Intl. Airport, for itinerant amateur travelers. This repeater is also used for public service events, and is a back-up repeater for local emergency nets, including Red Cross.
2. Because of the profound impact the proposed reallocation would have on the future of the Amateur Radio Service (ARS) in the United States, and particularly on the code-free Technician class licensee, which is restricted to the bands above 30 MHZ by the Commission's Rules, Explorer Post 599 is an interested party in this Proceeding.
3. The proposed reallocation of the 420-430 and 440-450 MHZ bands to the Private Mobile Radio Services (PMRS) would cause great and irreparable harm to the Amateur Radio Service (ARS) and its ability to provide the public with the high levels of voluntary public service and disaster/emergency communications services for which the ARS is known.
4. Explorer Post 599 is concerned about the very negative effects on the future growth and technical progress of the ARS , should this vital band be lost to amateur use.
5. We believe the LMCC's request is unjustified in that the LMCC has not demonstrated a compelling need for the requested spectrum by the PMRS, especially in light of the fact that the PMRS community has made no real effort or progress in implementing either the letter or spirit of the Report and Order in the Commission's recent "Spectrum Refarming" proceeding (PR Docket No. 92-235) toward implementing narrowband technology. If the spectrum shortage were as critical as the PMRS pleads, they surely would be urging their members to hasten conversion to narrowband (6.25 Khz) technology, as is already available in the 220 MHZ band.

## II. IMPACT ON EXPLORER POST 599

6. Explorer Post 599 operates two repeaters in Arizona, including a 448.800 MHz repeater near South Mountain, near Phoenix. This repeater has service the Post members, and other emergency services since 1990. Our youth members have used this repeater as "test bed" platform to experiment with many technologies, including remote control lighting systems, and dual-mode voice and packet data operations. It also is used to provide public service communications, and serves as back-up to several local disaster relief organizations. Should this band become unavailable, there are no other frequencies in the 2 meter band available for which this repeater could be replaced. There would certainly be no room in the remaining 430-440 MHz portion of the 70cm spectrum for all of the 440+ MHz repeaters, and 420+ MHz control links given the usage of 430-440 MHz for satellite space operations, meteor scatter, moonbounce, ATV, and other types of weak signal work.

## III. IMPACT ON ALL AMATEUR RADIO

7. The removal of the bands 420-43- and 440-450 MHz from the ARS would be a grave blow to the ARS in terms of its ability to provide what has historically been an extremely valuable and very reliable level of voluntary service to the public, both in terms of general public service communications (In support of parades, races, special events) and in terms of disaster/emergency communications assistance to public safety agencies and relief organizations such as Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc, in times of emergency. The 440-450 MHz band is the second most used band in amateur radio by the Technician Class licensees. Technicians now comprise almost half of all amateurs. Since equipment above 450 MHz is quite expensive, this would represent a serious blow to the operation of those hams who do not have access to HF frequencies, the loss of 440-450 MHz would do serious damage to the licensing structure, and operating ability of the ARS in the United States.

8. This spectrum represents the lowest frequencies available to amateurs for wideband operations of high-speed data, and Amateur Television (ATV). This is done by Federal Regulation, and simple logic of available bandwidth. The next lowest frequencies with this amount of bandwidth is at 1270 MHz.

9. The assertion by LMCC that the 440-450 MHz that the frequency can continue to by "shared" by them and the ARS is simply ludicrous. Most amateur 70 cm repeaters operate in or near large cities. Wide area systems are usually conducted on the 2 meter band. Unfortunately, these large metropolitan areas are precisely where the LMCC claims it has the highest need for frequencies. If the ARS were to become secondary operators to them, it would be quickly forced out of their existing channels by interference to new, no doubt 25 KHz "wideband" LMCC channels. This

begs the question as to why the LMCC is not encouraging its members to convert to 12.5 KHz and 6.25 KHz technology in major metro areas on their existing frequencies, rather than make this kind of blatant "grab" attempt.

#### IV. AMATEUR RADIO STATUS IN 420-230 AND 440-450 MHZ BANDS

10. The ARS has co-existed very well for the past four decades with Federal Government users, primarily military. The service was made secondary to Federal as a result of cold-war requirements by the military for bands to be used for various types of radar and other signaling. Surely, the LMCC must realize that the Federal Government is the primary user in these bands, and must relinquish "primary" status before they can access the channels as either "primary" or "co-primary". If indeed, the military is willing to relinquish these frequencies, Explorer Post 599 believes that these frequencies should be returned to the ARS as a primary user, as was originally intended prior to the cold-war sharing mode. We do not believe that the ARS and PMRS can co-share these channels as "co-secondary" users either. The resultant interference would be a never-ending battle for the Commission to sort-out, and hear petitions for clarification, and band modification.

#### V. SUMMARY

11. In its petition, the LMCC does not prove its case that it has no other means of resolving its purported spectrum needs. Nor does it give any reason why, as a for-profit organization, its members have not been forced to bid competitively as other commercial services have done, in other spectrum which has been on the market in the past few years. It appears that they would rather have a "freebie" handed to them in a blatant "spectrum grab". They also fail to justify why their members conversions to narrowband technology is taking so long, prolonging their purported spectrum shortage. Perhaps this is being done artificially, in order to justify such a "spectrum grab".

12. Explorer Post 599 respectfully submits that the LMCC's Petition regarding the 420-430 and 440-45- MHZ band is totally without merit and should be summarily dismissed.

13. Explorer Post 599 also requests the Commission give serious consideration to returning the ARS to its former primary user status in these bands at the earliest possible date, to prevent other organizations such as the "Little LEO" and LMCC from making continual "grabs" for what they see as open, virgin spectrum with only the ARS as a secondary user.

*Richard L. Tannehill*

Richard L. Tannehill, P.E., W7RT  
Executive Committee Chairman  
Explorer Post 599, of Phoenix Arizona

5410 W. Diana Ave.  
Glendale, Arizona 85302



San Juan County  
**Sheriff's Office**

William G. Cumming, Sheriff

Post Office Box 669 • Friday Harbor, Washington 98250 • (360) 378-4152

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

RM-9267

May 26, 1998

FCC MAIL ROOM

MAY 28 1998

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To Whom It May Concern:

The San Juan County Sheriff's Office works closely with the local Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) group, both for drills and in times of actual emergencies. Their assistance has proven extremely valuable. It would be a great loss to all concerned should they be deprived of one of their bands of operation which is used for primary communications as well as to tie repeater systems together.

To this end we respectfully request the Federal Communications Commission deny the application submitted by the Land Mobile Communications Commission (LMCC) for re-allocation of the 70 cm Amateur band.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. Cumming".

William G. Cumming  
Sheriff, San Juan County

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JUN 2 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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

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

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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.

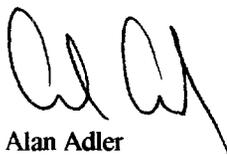
Many government agencies and non-profit disaster relief organizations would be tremendously harmed by the loss of the Amateur 420-430 and 440-450 MHz allocations. The following is a partial list of agencies that I have assisted with providing emergency communications via Amateur Radio using the 420-450 MHz band:

- Los Angeles County Disaster Communication 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,



Alan Adler  
17106 Clemons Dr.  
Encino, CA 91436

May 24, 1998

Before the

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20554

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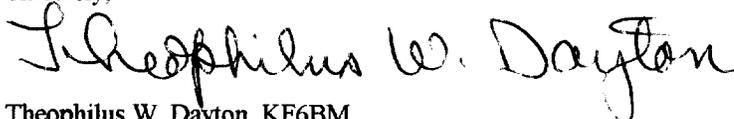
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- Riverside County Fire Dept.
- California Division of Forestry
- Palm Springs Police and Fire Dept, and Search and Rescue.
- Cathedral City Police and Fire Dept.
- Calif. Highway Patrol
- Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, Amateur Radio Emergency Service
- American Red Cross
- A number of public service events, Bob Hope Classic, etc.

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,



Theophilus W. Dayton KF6BM  
68-330 Concepcion Road  
Cathedral City, CA 92234-3636

May 25, 1998

27 May 1998

Dennis A. Malone, WB1EHD  
29 Ward Ave Apt. C  
Easthampton, MA 01027-2236

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing in response to RM-9267 regarding the Land Mobile Communications Council petition asking for the reallocation of 420 to 430 MHz and 440 to 450 MHz.

This would severely hurt the Amateur Radio community's ability to provide emergency communications in time of disaster.

I can cite that in my area, we have two repeaters in the 440 MHz range that provide excellent coverage and could well be utilized in a communications emergency.

One repeater in particular that is on 442.200 MHz is effective in both Hampshire and Franklin Counties in Massachusetts, and is also usable in extreme southeastern Windham County, Vermont.

The loss of this valuable system and all the other 440-450 MHz range repeater systems could possibly overload adjacent 144-148 MHz systems in a severe emergency here in Western Massachusetts.

RM-9267 would also hurt SAREX and MIREX operations as well as future Amateur Radio operations on the International Space Station.

Please take the above mentioned items into consideration when in deliberations concerning RM-9267.

Thank you in advance.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis A. Malone  
Dennis A. Malone, WB1EHD

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JUN 2 1998

FCC MAIL ROOM

Larry P. Hudson KD7BN  
250 Burma Road  
Riverton, WY 82501  
307-856-3111

May 28, 1998

Re: RM-9267

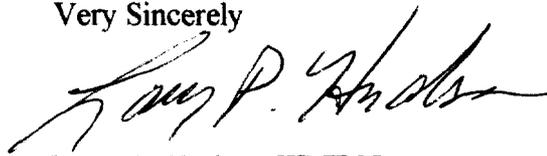
Dear Sir

The proposed reallocation of the 420-430 and 440-450 MHz bands to the Private Mobile Radio Service, as proposed by the Land Mobile Communications Council would be devastating to emergency communications in the state of Wyoming. Numerous frequencies in these band segments are used both in the UHF/VHF statewide communications linking system, and in the digital statewide LAN.

For me personally, should this reallocation take place, it would destroy 11 years of hard work, and make my \$21,000 investment in statewide emergency communications null and void.

If the Commission is serious about amateur radio being used for emergency communications, I strongly suggest that you put an end to the commercial threats to the amateur bands. Nation wide, there are only a handful of amateurs like myself that are willing to invest the time and money needed to provide far reaching UHF/VHF facilities, and it will only take being wiped out once, and this amateur will stay the heck with it!!!!

Very Sincerely



Larry P. Hudson KD7BN

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JUN 21 1999

FCC MAIL ROOM

Jeffrey L. Keller, NX9T  
312 Thornwood Ln.  
Youngsville, NC 27596

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

RE: Comments on RM-9267

Dear Commission members:

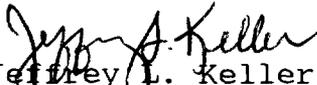
Thank you for taking the time to review my comments concerning this very important issue. I am an amateur radio operator who has held an active license for 13 years. I have participated in various public service activities, assisted in training and testing new amateurs, and maintain membership in both local and national ham radio organizations.

My understanding is that ~~RM-9267~~ <sup>267</sup> is a consideration to reallocate frequency spectrum which is currently assigned to amateur radio interests to other groups or commercial entities. I strongly oppose this action and sincerely request that the Commission determine that this action is not only unnecessary, but also harmful.

Amateur radio operations rely heavily on a local communication link provided by the 440mhz band. Many of our systems are built on the 440mhz band serving as a backbone, or connection, from one system to another. This linking is critical and ~~RM-9267~~ would severely disrupt and could fatally damage this ability. If a band change is mandated, hundreds of thousands of amateur operators would be forced to purchase new equipment, install additional antennas, towers, and supporting hardware. It could literally take years for this conversion to take place and many hams would find themselves in a financial hardship. They would be unable to sell their worthless old ham gear and unable to buy new equipment. The service would suffer tremendously.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Jeffrey L. Keller  
312 Thornwood Ln.  
Youngsville, NC 27596

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JUN 2 1993

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Comments with regard to RM-9267 from John P. Donnelly, P.E., Amateur Radio operator KY4JD, General Radiotelephone operator PG-19-5809 of Fort Wright, KY.

As the operator of an Amateur Radio Service repeater in the 70 cm (440 Mhz.-450 Mhz.) Amateur Radio Service band, I wish to comment on the utilization of this frequency spectrum and how the implementation of RM-9267 would adversely effect the useful amateur radio activities currently operating on these and adjacent UHF-70 cm. (420 Mhz.-450 Mhz.) frequencies.

Almost all of the amateur radio repeaters operate in the UHF and VHF bands. The second most popular band for these communications is the 70 cm. band (420 Mhz.-450 Mhz.) which is under attack via RM-9267. This proposal would remove twenty megahertz of the thirty megahertz of the 420 Mhz.-450 Mhz. spectrum and force amateur radio to share the remaining 10 Mhz. on a secondary basis with the proposed communications under RM-9267. In the VHF-two meter band, which is the most popular band for local communications, UHF 70-cm bands are used to link repeaters and remote receiver sites to extend communications ranges and permit talk-back from hand held transceivers.

One of the primary issues that most amateur repeater operators automatically concern themselves is having their equipment in place and operational during adverse conditions. These conditions include weather and flooding conditions which have occurred several times during the past several years that my repeater has been in operation.

Just over a year ago the Ohio River and its tributaries were subjected to serious flooding. During these floods the town of Falmouth, Kentucky, the county seat of Pendleton County was suddenly inundated by a flash flood which wiped out all city and county government. This included most government and public service buildings and all utilities and communications. It was quickly determined that cellular and PCS mobile telephone interconnect facilities were not designed to operate under these adverse conditions. All wired telephone communications including the central office were flooded.

Radio amateurs using primarily UHF and VHF frequencies responded to assist local and state disaster personnel in handling this disaster. Because of the low elevation of Falmouth and its distance from other areas where communications still operated, UHF and VHF amateur radio repeaters and their telephone interconnects became primary links to the outside world. Amateur radio operators not only bring their own radio equipment, antennae and power supplies to disasters such as these, under the Amateur Service rules they must supply the personnel to operate them. And of course they do so.

Other areas of Northern Kentucky suffered similar consequences and were provided with assistance by Amateur Radio, using frequencies in the 420 Mhz to 450 Mhz band in this example of disaster and emergency assistance. In some areas of the country amateur fast scan television operates on the above mentioned frequencies, again as an adjunct to emergency and disaster operations. No other non commercial group has the capabilities to set up and operate equipment of this type on frequencies that are not line of sight dependent in a portable mode. Handheld transceivers, in amateur radio as in other services, have become the most popular tool for individual communication. These work well for local communication but often require the support of fixed systems such as repeaters.

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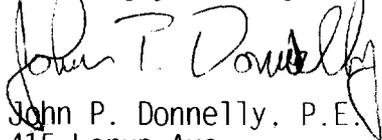
Several of the members of the LMCC are groups whose members are responsible for the public safety and other communications which amateur radio backs up during these disasters. Others represent public communications which do not function during disasters, as mentioned above.

The proposal to permit amateur radio to share, on a secondary basis, these frequencies, has not been documented and therefore cannot be considered by the amateur radio community as feasible at this time. We cannot presently visualize how this sharing could work except to force amateur radio from the frequencies at a later time.

The frequency spectrum from 420 Mhz to 450 Mhz needs to be maintained as is, so that radio amateurs can continue to provide the service they currently provide particularly during unplanned events, emergencies and disasters. These bands are currently well utilized, particularly the 440 Mhz to 450 Mhz portion, which is the most popular and the location of most Amateur Radio Service repeaters and simplex FM voice communications. The proposed RM-9267 would force amateur radio to abandon this 10 Mhz section of the band and consolidate existing 430-440 Mhz operations and those operations displaced from 420 Mhz-430 Mhz into the 430 Mhz-440 Mhz section of the band which would be utilized on a secondary shared basis. The movement of repeaters and links from these frequencies to others, if available, will be expensive and could make much of the existing equipment unuseable.

One further point is that the amateur radio service is a volunteer service where operators cannot normally charge for the services they provide and therefore they are not in a financial position to compete against commercial services which expect to profit from the services they provide. However, a portion of the spectrum must be preserved, as the government reserves portions of land, for the public welfare for recreation and unforeseen emergencies. Amateur radio has, in the past, ceased operation for the war operations of World War II, and will respond again if called upon to do so. But it needs the consideration of available frequencies to provide its services.

Thanking you for your consideration, I remain



John P. Donnelly, P.E.  
415 Lorup Ave.  
Fort Wright, KY 41011  
Email: ky4jd@fuse.net

May 27, 1998

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

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

In the Matter of **FCC docket RM-9267**

COMMENTS OF:

Richard W. Dzick  
FCC License N8MQU  
Treasurer of L'Anse Creuse Amateur Radio Club  
31572 Juniper Lane  
Warren, MI 48093-1625

I file these comments on May 27, 1998, in the request to reallocate 420 to 430 and 440 to 450 MHz from federal government to Private Mobile Radio Service (PMRS) as requested by the Land Mobile Communications Council (LMCC).

It is my understanding that the frequencies 420 to 430 and 440 to 450 MHz is now a shared allocation between the federal government and the amateur radio service of which I hold the FCC license N8MQU.

I want the FCC to reject the LMCC request and retain the 420 to 430 and 440 to 450 MHz for amateur radio service. As a radio amateur and ARRL service club member, we have the equipment and organization to provide community service in the time of emergency and non-emergency.

Submitted by:

*Richard W. Dzick*

Richard W. Dzick, N8MQU  
31572 Juniper Lane  
Warren MI 48093-1625

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**Federal Communications Commission**

Room 222, 1919 M Street NW  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of

A Petition for Access to the 70 cm Amateur )  
Band and other non Amateur spectrum, sub- )  
mitted by the Land Mobile Communications ) RM 9267  
Council (LMCC), released for public comment )  
by FCC on April 30, 1998 )

To: The Commission

Comments of Terence Rybak, PCIA Certified Communications Technician, NARTE  
Certified EMC Engineer, Amateur Radio Licensee W8TR  
PO Box 260, Pinckney, MI 48169-0260

When responding to RM 9267, please consider the following facts pertaining to the 70 cm (420-450 MHz) Amateur Radio frequency assignment:

- The 70 cm band is second only to the 2 m (144-148 MHz) band in mobile use by amateur radio operators.
- Amateur radio operators have invested their own time and money to create the existing infrastructure (repeaters, base, and mobile stations, operating FM, digital, television, single sideband, and cw modes.)
- Amateurs cannot depend on business income to move or recreate this infrastructure.
- Amateurs provide free public service via skywarn (tornado watch) and communications services during emergencies to local and state governments.
- There appears to be adequate spectrum at 1.3-1.7 GHz to satisfy PMRS without displacing amateur radio frequency assignments.
- PMRS may develop new technology that requires less spectrum.
- The proposed 10 MHz allocation at 430-440 MHz for amateur use is inadequate for the existing television and repeater operation. Television occupies a 6 MHz bandwidth, and repeater's inputs and outputs are separated by 5 MHz for isolation between receiver and transmitter.
- Reducing the 70 cm allocation to 10 MHz would result in overcrowding and interference with emergency communications.

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- I personally have invested in three mobile/portable radios to operate on 70 cm at a cost of \$1500, plus antennas.
- These radios cannot be easily moved to other frequencies. My hard-earned investment would be rendered worthless.
- I use the 70 cm band to communicate with family members, for digital communications (PACKET), and for emergency communication via local repeaters.
- I am personally contributing financial support to a club so I can use their 70 cm repeater.

In summary, please do not re-allocate any of the 70 cm amateur radio assignment to other services.

Sincerely,



Terence Rybak

**Edgewood  
Amateur  
Radio  
Society**

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W6NRY • 447.300-

SERVING THE PUBLIC SINCE 1957

JUN 2 1998

FCC MAIL ROOM

May 19, 1998

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

Ref: Petition RM-9267

Dear Commission:

I am a licensed Amateur Radio operator and a member of the Edgewood Amateur Radio Society in West Covina, California. I would like to state my strong opposition to RM-9267 as proposed by the Land Mobile Communications Council.

Our club has a long history, over 40 years, of being dedicated to disaster and emergency communications. The use of the 70 cm Amateur Radio band is critical to our support of Red Cross Disaster communications in West Covina and also to assisting thousands of motorists each year with highway emergencies via our communications system.

The Edgewood Amateur Radio Society maintains an important repeater on 447.300- MHz on Johnstone Peak that services all of the Los Angeles basin. This repeater system allows our club members to assist with many public service events throughout the year. Like all of our repeater systems, it continues to be an emergency resource to the community, and at no cost to the tax payers, supported completely by the membership of our club.

Our club also maintains an vital VHF repeater system that assists the public, on a daily basis, with highway type emergencies. This dual-site system, W6FNO, is linked on the 420 MHz to 430 MHz band and allows radio coverage over much of Southern California. Year-after-year, a team of licensed hams is handling over 4000 calls, aiding the motoring public through the use of the W6FNO repeater. The effectiveness of this system would be greatly impaired by interference from the land mobile users under RM-9267. A serious loss to public service in our area.

RM-9267 puts 420 to 430 MHz and 440 to 450 MHz in grave jeopardy. The technical language in RM-9267 does not give any viable solutions to the very likely problem of interference between the proposed Private Mobile Radio Service, as the primary user, and the long standing use by Amateur Radio as a responsible secondary user. Such RF interference would cause a loss to our club operations that could never be replaced. Please do not approve this misguided petition.

Sincerely,

*James W. Saladi W6CLOF*  
1216 SO. PRIMEAUX AVE  
WEST COVINA CA  
91790-5340

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Denver CO 80231

JUN 2 1998

May 26 - 1998

FCC MAIL

Secretary - Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. Street N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to put on record my strong objection to the proposed re-allocation or alleged take over of the 440 Megahertz frequency band by LCM or any other Corporation, company, Partnership or group.

As a recent introduction to licensed amateur Radio Service via the no code tech rating I have discovered that Ham operators are one of the best disciplined and ethical groups around.

I have talked to young kids who got into Ham Radio as no code techs or novices and they are enthusiastic. I'd rather see kids into something constructive - not drugs, Pot, gangs etc.

Do we really need more people driving around in heavy traffic talking on Cell Phones?

Sincerely

Richard Jones

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FCC MAIL ROOM

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May 26, 1998

Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: RM 9267

Dear Commissioners:

In an area of East Central Colorado where the population density is a few persons per square mile, three amateurs own and operate a repeater on a coordinated frequency pair of 447.875/442.875 MHz. The trustee of this repeater is wheelchair bound and depends on this machine for much of his contact with the outside world. The repeater is open to all licensed amateurs and serves a wide stretch of Interstate Highway 70 from just east of Denver to east of Limon, Colorado. Future plans are to build a link further east to Goodland, Kansas.

A couple of days ago, I took a report from an itinerate trucker who saw a tornado just north of the Interstate near the town of Bennett, Colorado. He was using the repeater. We promptly relayed this report to the National Weather Service. This time of year we frequently have many "storm chasers" who may use the repeater to relay weather reports to NWS. In wintertime, the highway is frequently closed by ground blizzards and many times people have been stranded in their vehicles. The repeater is available for reporting these occurrences to local law enforcement and search and rescue groups. There is no way to estimate the value of this repeater or of its users who perform public service activities. I do not believe that commercial users, if they gain access to this band, will perform these public services. The assignment of amateur radio in the 420 to 450 MHz band is the highest and best use that spectrum.

The electromagnetic spectrum is analogous to the public lands. Both are finite, fragile and difficult, if not impossible to repair after improper use has taken place. User assignments must be carefully made. The FCC cannot and should not simply consider the spectrum in terms of its monetary or political value. The radio amateurs of America cannot afford to buy spectrum. This radio service is inherently non-commercial. We cannot compete with private radio groups like the LMCC. Nor should we have to. It is like asking grizzly bears to compete with loggers or other resource developers.

The LMCC proposes to let amateurs continue to use the 70 cm band. They have not said how amateurs can coexist with commercial services. I believe they cannot coexist. Interference between the two services will be difficult to control. There will be many problems which cannot be easily or economically solved. The FCC would be well advised to avoid a joint use allocation.

If the facts show that the LMCC is correct and that commercial land mobile radio needs additional spectrum then let us work together to find suitable spectrum. Give them an assignment where they can be by themselves. Let radio amateurs continue to use 420 to 450 MHz as primary users, acting in the public interest, convenience and necessity.

Sincerely,

*George H. Saum*

George H. Saum, P.E., K0GS  
22813 County Road 150  
Agate, Colorado 80101

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Alfred J. Denson/ KE6LMB  
21000 Bryant 8  
Canoga Park, Calif. 91304

Federal Communication Commission  
Secretary, Room 222  
1919 M. Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: RM - 9267

Dear Commission:

As a licensed Amateur Radio Operator, I would like to go on record as being strongly opposed to the petition under consideration, RM-9267.

I am active on many Amateur Radio frequencies that promote public welfare through emergency, disaster and public service communication. The frequencies stated in RM-9267 (420 MHz to 430 MHz and 440 MHz to 450 MHz), are very important to our continued success in serving the public and our communities through our work. These frequency segments also include important linking, control, and repeater systems that are used daily in our area.

One of the five reasons that our Government created the Amateur Radio Service was to have a readily available pool of trained operators to assist with emergency communications when the unexpected occurs. While Amateur Radio is allocated as the secondary user of these frequencies, our emergency networks have caused little interference to the primary user, the United States Government. RM-9267 contains no technical solutions that prove Amateur Radio operators could continue to use these bands for emergency preparations and operations if land mobile communications became the primary user. In Southern California, this relatively small portion of Spectrum will quickly fill up with bases, mobiles, and repeaters assigned to businesses, leaving amateurs and their established emergency communication networks ineffective with the inevitable increase in business traffic under RM-9267.

Please consider fully the consequences of RM-9267 and assigning primary frequency usage to Land Mobile Radio. As a member of the Amateur Radio Community, I want to continue to serve my National, State, and Local Governments by providing my equipment and services during an emergency. RM-9267 will limit the amateur radio operator's access to these frequencies and will definitely interfere with all amateur disaster preparation communication efforts.

Sincerely,



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FCC MAIL ROOM

RICHARD M. ROY, KB8SMC  
337 Woodbridge Road  
Oak Hill, WV 25901  
May 27, 1998

Secretary, FCC  
1919 M St. NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Secretary:

Re: RM 9267

This letter is to inform you of my opposition to the Land Mobile Communications Council being allocated any of the 70 Centimeter band that is presently used by the Amateur Radio Operators of this country.

As you are well aware, the Amateur Radio community has always been one of the first groups to volunteer, during any type of disaster, to assist organizations such as the Red Cross, Salvation Army, FEMA, and other agencies with disaster relief efforts. All of these organizations recognize the valuable assets available from the Amateur Radio Operator.

If the 70 Centimeter, or any portion of the Amateur Radio Frequency Spectrum, is re-allocated to private industry, would the industry be able and willing to fill the void during a disaster due to the absence of Amateur Radio Operators?

In closing, I restate my opposition to the Land Mobile communication Council being allocated any of the 70 Centimeter frequency band.

Sincerely,



Richard M. Roy, KB8SMC

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