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Public Comments on Equipment Authorizations:=====

Title: Equipment Authorizations

FR Document Number: 2015-21634

RIN:

Publish Date: 9/1/2015 12:00:00 AM

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Comment: Respectfully, proposed rules regarding the limitation of loading custom firmware onto modular wireless radio devices is concerning and shows a lack of forethought into consequences that may arise from the proposed rules.

To illustrate a few:

- Custom firmware enhances security by patching unsupported, but still useful devices.

- Custom firmware allows consumers additional network configuration options that are not provided out-of-the-box from vendors, such as WPA Enterprise, VLANs, and syslog/snmp tools. All of which can enhance security of a device and/or network.

- Open Source software is a critical realm for budding developers to learn how to interact with technology, whether it is in troubleshooting, developing, or even just installing custom code. I've learned more in a year about technology than I learned in my college undergrad years.

If the US wants to be competitive in technology, we need to allow people to work with devices, especially ones containing wireless radios. Take away the ability to interface/modify and you lose a powerful teaching tool.

Finally, 5GHz signals attenuate rapidly. What is the large concern?

Sincerely,

Brendan Murphy / HAM License: KD0ZYC

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