

Here is my reply:

I have worked at a radio station on 1240 since 1967, full and now part time. I have my General class license. and my amateur license. The proposal to eliminate skywave protection to A class licensees and only protect to the 0.1 ground wave. It won't work. Skywave does not go by proposed rules. There will be nights that the rules will be OK, and there will be many that skywave will go a much longer distance. When I lived in Atlanta, a station, a daytimer on 750 decided to stay on at night. I could hear it under WSB and I lived less than 15 miles from the transmitter site. As for the B C and D stations getting more power at night = BAD idea. As for 1240?.. the move to 1000 at night reduced our range. I live 10 air miles from the radio station. I barely hear it at night on nights where propagation is good and not at all when conditions are prime for "DX". So to listen to "AM" skywave is the only way. WVOC, 560 45 miles away on 560 would be another ground wave station for me, however even protection at current levels, I get poor reception many nights. WOAM causes severe interference on nights where propagation is "auroral". And some stations hundreds of miles west often forget to cut power. That leads me to believe that giving D class stations on clear channel frequencies is a bad idea. I determined that B,C,D stations on the old "regional" frequencies have a problem. There is a LOT of cheating going on. Not the big corporate boys, but the small local owner(s) that have decided their flea power doesn't work and either runs day power or a slightly lower version. This also raises noise levels. Here is another example: A 250 watt station in New England decided to stay on at night (on 1110) and I could hear the under WBT right IN Charlotte and not in the sharp null toward Gastonia.

So i conclude that especially on class A frequencies, that allowing night power would substantially cause interference well inside their night coverage areas. I see a lot of influential consulting engineers thinking it won't be a problem. They don't listen to radio as much as I do. Where I live there is NO cable TV, NO DSL, and shaky cell coverage. My internet is on a MiFi, and it is very expensive, and has a restrictive data cap.

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