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I support this petition.

Many amateurs start out with low power transceivers in the 5 to 10 watt output range. Many experienced amateurs use low power transceivers for portable operation. Under the current rules, these transceivers are not capable of driving a linear amplifier to full output. Thus, the amateur needs to purchase a more powerful transceiver, or an intermediate amplifier in the 100 watt output range, if the amateur wishes to effectively utilize a commercially produced amplifier under the current rules. The petition, if granted, would increase the flexibility of lower power transceivers and eliminate the extra cost burden associated with producing more output power. It is in the public interest for these reasons.

At the time of adoption of the rule, amplifiers capable of producing gain in excess of 15 dB were relatively rare. Therefore, the burden on the industry and individuals of the rule was minimal. However, recent technological developments have produced basic devices capable of much higher gain. It is against the public interest to deprive amateurs of the full utilization of these devices in the absence of a compelling argument to the contrary - and there appear to be none.

The current rule does not accomplish a significant public interest objective, stifles innovation, and adds to the cost of amateur radio stations. Therefore, the petition should be granted.

Sincerely,

Walton Stinson, WOCP