

NPRM, WT Docket No. 98-143, Section E, Telegraphy Examination Requirements, paragraphs 19-25.

I agree with FCC's assessment as to the decreasing role of Morse code.

I believe that Morse code is nowadays used by amateurs in recreational traffic.

I believe that code testing done by government does not serve any justifiable purpose.

Therefore, I believe that all testing of Morse code should be ended.

However, as International Radio Regulations (RR) still contain requirement for mandatory Morse code testing (Art. S25.5), I respectfully suggest that Morse code testing will be done at the speed of 5 WPM (and only 5 WPM), but only as long as RR contains such requirement. If RR in future will be modified so that mandatory Morse code testing can be dropped, this should be done without delay.

If there is only 5 WPM Morse code test, that would also eliminate the need of medical waivers for higher speed telegraphy exams.

Now, if Morse code testing will be done at 5 WPM, this would, on my opinion, make the difference between proposed Advanced and Extra classes so small that dropping Advanced class seems sufficient.

Respectfully submitted by Riku Kalinen, K2LWO