WT Docket No 98-

From: wa6itc
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To: ecfs@fcc.gov
Cc: w6curmudgeon@juno.com, ki7ax@juno.com, no6b@no6b.jpl.nasa.gov, k6dbx@juno.com
Subject: Reply Comments to WT 98-143 Comments from SCRRBA
X-Status: New

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<PROCEEDING> WT 98-143
<DATE> 12/16/98
<NAME> Rod Wheeler
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<FILE NUMBER>
<DOCUMENT TYPE> RC
<CONFIDENTIAL> n
<PHONE NUMBER> 909-861-2499
<DESCRIPTION> Reply comments to SCRRBA's (Southern California Remote Base and Repeater Associations) Comments to Biennial Regulatory Review amendments of Part 97
<NOTIFY> wa6itc@juno.com
<TEXT> In response to SCRRBA's comments I want to say I disagree most strongly with SCRRBA's request that Frequency Coordination be mandatory for repeater operation. This would amount to frequency assignment for exclusive use a violation of the fundamental premise of amateur radio. There request went further to almost control all transmissions above 50Mhz, do not give the coordinators this power.

You will notice that nowhere do they require that they coordinate anyone. I have had a frequency coordination request at SCRRBA for two years with the response that there are no frequencies available (because they are assigned to other amateurs).

Do not give the coordinators the power to require coordination unless you require them to perform their duties and coordinate anyone who applies for coordination. There refusal to allow sharing of frequencies unless the first amateur on the frequency agrees amounts to frequency assignments, this has to stop.

A simple change to 97.3 Definitions (21) Frequency Coordinator would solve the problem. Change it to read: Changes in parentheses (change) actually additions.

(21) Frequency Coordinator: An entity, recognized in a local or regional area by amateurs operators whose stations are eligible to be auxiliary or repeater stations, that (MUST) recommend transmit/receive channels and associated operating and technical parameters for such stations in order to avoid or minimize potential interference (WITHIN 60 DAYS OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION).

This simple change in the rules of the definition of a frequency coordinator would stop frequency hording and force the advancement of amateur radio to narrower technology.

Again do not give the power to control the frequencies above 50Mhz to the coordinators if you do not require them to coordinate.

Sincerely

Rod Wheeler

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WT 98-143

To: Federal Communications Commission

From: Robert H. Stephens, WA8LEN
4045 Sugarbush Drive
Canfield, Ohio 44406

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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Regarding: FCC License Proposal

Date: November 12, 1998

I want to make some comments on your amateur license proposal, but before I do, I feel it is important for me to give you some background on myself.

I am 51 years old and have been a ham since I was 13 years old. I am a Tech Plus and for 10 years of my career I was an electronics instructor at a public vocational school.

I first became interested in amateur radio because of my interest in electronics.

Amateurs like W8SZN, W8PWH encouraged me by helping me build projects and learn electronics by placing the projects on the air. It was the interest in electronics that moved me and thousands of others into amateur radio years ago.

Today, when we get on the air, amateurs talk about many other things like the weather and non-related items. I think this is mostly due to the fact that too much code was pushed and the old timers said we had to pass it because they had to.

This hobby has dwindled due to the old thinking philosophy and will be extinct in 5 years or so unless we refocus our thoughts.

I am not saying that people should not learn the code. I did the 5 words a minute and use it less than 5% of the time.

Let's face it, communications today is SSB. Look at all of our military branches, they use SSB.

I highly encourage the "reduced" not elimination of code for the general class amateurs and above.

I also encourage the idea of increased testing of written elements based on operating privileges and electronics theory.

Your present proposal would take someone like myself and move them backwards from Tech Plus to Tech.

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If you want to promote Amateur Radio, I would encourage the FCC to take the thousands of Tech Plus amateurs and move them up to the general class with all their current privileges per the ARRL proposal. Let's encourage these amateurs.

As for most techs operating FM, it's because we have no other frequencies to use SSB on other than 10 meters and I'm sure that many of the Tech Plus Amateurs like myself who worked 6 meters for years are now operating on 10 also.

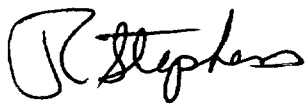
I would recommend amateurs above the general class be required to know 10 words per minute for the next tier with more electrical theory (high level) and amateur knowledge on transmission lines, antennas and RFI/TVI theory.

I want to thank you for taking time to read my comments and concerns. I feel we need to encourage more of our youth into amateur radio with the association of electronics.

My comments are based on my experience as both an amateur and electronics instructor. I feel amateur radio has not progressed over the 20 years. I feel that it has moved in the wrong direction and that's why many that are hams, no longer operate presently. Future hams need to be encouraged through the field of electronics, not code to enter amateur radio.

Again, thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Robert Stephens, WA8LEN