

To whom it may concern:

I am a PhD student in astrophysics at Penn State University, and a member of the American Astronomical Society. I have learned that the already compromised radio astronomy frequencies that radio astronomers use are in jeopardy. This is due to a proposed revision of the rules concerning unwanted emissions from satellites.

Radio astronomy is crucial for astronomy at all wavelengths. Most astronomers that do not do observations in the radio rely on their radio colleagues for the excellent spatial resolution that they can obtain. Even Hubble Space Telescope cannot determine positions as accurately as the Very Large Array radio telescope in New Mexico. Furthermore, many astronomical objects emit in the radio in strange and distinct ways as compared to their emission in other bands. It would be a devastating loss to our future understanding of the universe to suddenly be blindfolded in the radio.

Radio astronomers do not need free access to all frequencies, but it is essential that unwanted emissions be prevented as much as possible so as not to compromise the critical frequencies that are used.

I welcome a response.

Thank you,  
Ann E. Hornschemeier  
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