

I read with interest the FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order in ET Docket 01-278. It states that SAVI Technology, Inc. (SAVI) has developed RFID tags operating at 433 MHz and wishes to obtain a ruling to allow increased operation on that frequency.

I do not agree with the argument that this or any other organization should be allowed to manufacture or operate non-amateur radio equipment in this frequency range.

While such equipment will supposedly be confined to a limited geographical area, the area I live in would have many users for such a system. I live within 15 miles of Sunny Point Military Ocean Terminal (the highest traffic of any military port on the east coast), and within 20 miles of several major shipyards in Wilmington, NC.

Amateur radio operators in this area use both the 2 meter and 70 cm amateur bands on a wide-area repeater system for casual use; the same systems are also used in emergencies. Unfortunately, we have no shortage of emergencies; the same factor that would make such a system appealing (the proximity to the ocean) also makes us vulnerable to large-scale emergencies in the form of hurricanes.

The primary reason I became an amateur radio operator was due to the frequency of loss of telephone communications and the vulnerability of public service radio systems when hurricanes do arise (