

Novice licensee John S. Rippey, W3ULS, has petitioned the FCC to expand HF phone and CW privileges for Novice and Technician (with Element 1 credit) operators.

The NOVICE license is a BEGINNER's steppingstone to Amateur Radio operation. It is ludicrous to begin with that Mr. Rippey, having held a General class license in the 1950 and 60s, should now hold a BEGINNER's license.

The TECHNICIAN license had traditionally been one for the more experimentally minded amateur, with privileges above 50 Mhz. There is no reason to expand privileges below 50 Mhz; other classes of licenses exist for that purpose.

Likewise, there is no reason to expand NOVICE, i.e. BEGINNER privileges beyond the already too generous privileges NOVICE licensees hold, such as being able to be a BEGINNER forever.

I submit that RM-10354 be denied in its entirety.

John Martin
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