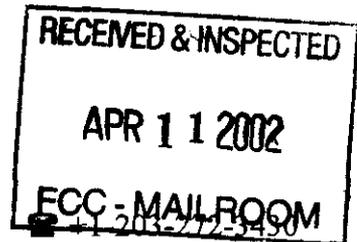


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March 18, 2002

Secretary  
 Federal Communications Commission  
 Washington, DC 20554

**Petition for Rulemaking**

**Petitioner:** John J. Elengo, W1DQ  
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**Proposed amendment to 47CFR97.111:**

Title 47-Telecommunication

Chapter 1-Federal Communications Commission

Part 97-Amateur Radio Service, Subpart B-Station Operating Standards

Sec. 97-111 Authorized Transmissions.

Add the following underlined text to section 97-111 (a) (6):

(6) Transmissions necessary to disseminate information bulletins provided that:

- (i) The duration of any single transmission shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes.
- (ii) The time period between successive transmissions shall not be less than two (2) hours.
- (iii) The total number of transmissions in any particular frequency band shall not exceed four (4) in any twenty-four (24) hour period.

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### **Rationale for Amendment**

Amateur radio organizations such as the American Radio Relay League and the American Amateur Radio Association transmit bulletins of interest to amateur radio operators on a regularly scheduled basis. Such transmissions should be reasonably held short and to the point.

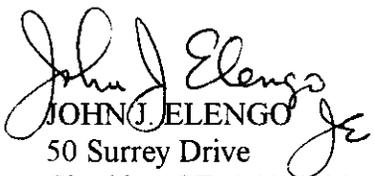
One organization utilizes the amateur radio station, K1MAN, to transmit bulletins according to the following schedule obtained directly from its website, <http://www.carte.net/k1man/iarn.htm>.

“DAILY K1MAN TRANSMITTING (BULLETIN) SCHEDULE: 14.275 MHz. USB and 3.975 LSB at 1:00 AM to 2:30 AM; 3:30 AM to 5:00 AM; 6:30AM to 8:00 AM; 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM; and also 8:00 PM to 9:30 PM. 7.224 MHz. LSB at 3:30 AM to 5:00 AM. High fidelity amplitude modulation on 3.890 MHz. at 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. (All times are Eastern - add 5 Hrs. for UTC)”

This one-way transmission of bulletins is lengthy and extensive in content and also, from time to time, the bulletins incorporate a request for listeners to call-in by telephone, a format similar to a broadcast radio station “talk-show”. The transmissions continue unabated and they are contrary to intent, if not the rules and regulations, of the amateur radio service.

The primary objective of the amateur radio service is to enable two-way personal communications between licensed individuals involved in the hobby, provide for amateur technical experimentation and enable communications during times of legitimate emergency. A lengthy transmission of information bulletins in this service is unwarranted and it encroaches upon the broadcasting service. It further denies licensed individuals from establishing two-way communication in that space occupied by the bulletin transmitting station and especially so in an already crowded amateur radio band. There are other means available for disseminating information to radio amateurs, specifically via readily obtainable and periodically printed publications and via the Internet.

While the current regulations provide that certain one-way transmissions be brief, there is no control of the period and duration of one-way information bulletin transmissions. The proposed amendment restricts the period and duration of the transmission of information bulletins. As a result, organizations will need to become more selective of the content of bulletins and a responsible organization will disseminate the most important information in a concise manner. Band space that is currently being occupied by a bulletin station operating for periods in excess of this allowance will be returned to amateur radio's primary two-way communication purpose. Enforcement is facilitated through the application of non-subjective direct time measurements.

By:   
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Date: March 18, 2002

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