

January 4, 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC

Subject: Petition # RM-10620

I am submitting my comments regarding the above petition filed with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) by Dale Reich, K8AD.

I am opposed to this action for the following reasons:

1. This is another attempt to downgrade the qualifications necessary to obtain a higher grade of Amateur Radio License,
2. We have in place many organizations that are ready, willing, and able, with adequate staffing, to handle and participate in any emergency communications needs.
3. Time alone does not guarantee efficiency in any undertaking. Experience, study, and education prepare an individual for more responsibility and privilege. Time alone would be consistent with me taking an aspirin a day for 20 years, and after that time period giving me physician privilege and responsibility.
4. With "Time Only" being the requirement for upgrading privilege, a person in theory, could obtain a Novice License, and make no further effort, whether it be experience, education, or study, and lay dormant for 20 years and be upgraded.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my views on this important decision

Sincerely

Kay W. Hargis, N7KH