

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington DC 20554**

In the matter of:)

Amendment of Part 97 of the)
Commissions Rules Governing the) RM-11305
Amateur Radio Service)

Petition for Spectrum Deregulation in the Amateur Service

My name is Timothy P. Gorman, AB0WR and I am a licensed amateur radio operator and a member of the American Radio Relay League. I have been active in amateur radio for more than 40 years. I have a BSEE degree from the University of Kansas.

I. Background and Introduction

1. This proposal purports to advance the operating usefulness of the amateur bands by removing all enforceable FCC rules and regulations concerning where signals of widely varying types and capabilities can operate. It will claims that interference problems between operating modes can be avoided by the amateur community insisting upon gentlemanly operating habits and the use of voluntary bandplans.

2. The plan has major flaws. In summary, these are:
 - No identified process for developing and maintining a bandplan acceptable to all amateurs.
 - No bandplan suggestions for maintaining “preserves” for non-competitive operating modes like low-power QRP operation, very narrow-bandwidth modes, or beacon operation.
 - It does not recognize the need for the U.S to insure adherence to international recognized agreements.

3. I urge the FCC to reject this proposal in total.

II. Discussion

4. In order for any such proposal as this, which depends upon totally voluntary compliance to a standard, it is imperative that a standard be available that will suit the needs of the vast majority of the amateur community. The only method for accomplishing a task like this is to implement a process that will accept the input of everyone in the community, that will provide fair consideration for all inputs, and which will result in a consensus output that will meet the needs of the vast majority of the community. If the needs of any major element of the community is not satisfied, chaos will result as that unsatisfied element develops and implements operating procedures likely to be at odds with the resulting bandplan.

5. Developing and implementing such a process **after** the implementation of such a regulatory paradigm is a recipe for disaster. Developing the process alone could take months or even years. In the interim, ad hoc bandplans will be put in place by any number of special interest groups anxious to provide the maximum benefit to the members of its sub-community. The resulting chaos will lead to power and mode competitions likely to produce significant levels of interference complaints for the FCC to arbitrate.

6. I urge the FCC to reject this proposal.

7. This proposal establishes no protection such things as low power operation, very narrow bandwidth operations or beacon operation. Users of these modes absolutely depend upon being able to operate in close proximity to fixed frequencies. Forcing these modes to move around the bands in order to find a spot to operate would make it difficult to find someone to converse with. Trying to listen to the entire 500khz of the 80m band in order to find a single 31hz wide psk-31 signal would, in essence, make this mode unusable for many hams. Trying to find a beacon that is forced to move around the band in response to instantaneous demand levels of other modes would probably be impossible, especially in weak signal conditions.

8. I urge the FCC to reject this proposal.

9. With no bandplan to follow, there is no way to insure that U.S. amateur radio operators will remain in compliance with international agreements laid out by the Region 1 and Region 2 ITU and IARU organizations. This could result in U.S. amateur radio operators causing significant interference to the amateur radio operations in other countries and regions. I urge the FCC to reject this proposal.

I appreciate the opportunity you have provided to comment on this proposal. I eagerly await your final decision.

Timothy P. Gorman, AB0WR