

While this petition appears to be well thought out and composed, I am not in favor of its adoption. This petition seeks to place increased restrictions on the use of digital modes. I find that these restrictions would not be for the betterment of amateur radio. Specifically, modern digital communications methods that allow a more timely transfer of larger volumes of information without error would be affected. The amateur radio emergency communications environment in a post - Katrina world require high volume, accurate transfer of data.

Currently there is a significant need for a greater portion of bandwidth to be made available to automatically controlled stations, such as the mentioned Pactor III stations. Faster (greater bandwidth) digital communications modes allow for more information to be passed in less time, particularly in cases of emergency where time is of the essence.