

November 16, 2012

RM-11625

Amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's Rules to Facilitate Use in the Amateur Radio Service of Single Slot Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) Telephony and Data Emissions  
To the Commission:

As an Amateur Radio operator, I am writing in support of the Petition for Rulemaking filed by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) to facilitate the use of single-slot Time division multiple access (TDMA) under Part 97 of the Commission's rules. I urge the Commission to move quickly to adopt this proposal.

The proposed change removes a long standing ambiguity in Part 97 concerning the use of single slot TDMA technology in the Amateur Radio Service.

The Amateur Radio Service has a long history of supporting the public through use of its spectrum. But this service faces a challenge that is common to all users of the public radio spectrum. That is one of overcrowding. The proposed change enables and encourages the adoption of spectrally-efficient narrowband technology.

Amateur Service Frequency Coordinators in many areas have adopted policies to encourage the use of spectrum efficient digital repeaters and the user community has responded by deploying D-STAR, P25, DMR and similar technologies and this is a great tool to accommodate this. The proposed changes move in the direction of enabling the flexible use of new commercial off the shelf technology within the Amateur Radio Service.

Public Safety users have adopted and implemented digital TDMA technology successfully in the Land Mobile Radio service, and easily co-exist with adjacent analog operation without interference.

This change will improve the Amateur Radio services efficient use of available spectrum in the 2 meter and 40 centimeter bands and will allow the amateur radio service to continue experimentation and implementation of state of the art communication technologies, as well as enable additional avenues of emergency communications during times of emergency.

Thank you for your consideration in this important matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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