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Public Comments on Amateur Radio Service Communications During Government Disaster Drills:=====

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I am writing in support of this proposed rule change. As a rural hospital CEO, I can emphasize that in a disaster traditional communication pathways are often compromised. Amateur radio is one of the few methods which is fairly weather proof, and does not become inundated in emergent situations. Use of such technology by experienced individuals who are also hospital employees can provide critical links to the outside world. Of course, to be effective, these measures must be included in disaster drills as well. I understand and agree with the need to keep the radio bands free from commercial and other for-profit traffic, especially in emergency situations, but I believe this rule revision addresses a clear gap in the intended regulation by allowing participants in an emergency to use all available tools to save lives.