

RM-11699 Comments
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Dear Slrs:

I have been a licensed radio amateur since 1965, and currently serve as the District Emergency Coordinator for the Amateur Radio Emergency Services for 16 counties in Southeast Minnesota. I believe that very limited encryption should be allowed under Part 97 in certain specific situations:

1. When using a standard WiFi communication protocol on the amateur bands above 902 MHz, standard WEP or WPA encryption should be allowed to exclude non-amateur users from Part 97 networks. Allowing this will spur the creation of more amateur networks in these bands, increasing experimentation and helping to advance the radio arts.
2. Encryption of data files should be allowed when participating in bonafide disaster relief activities, when requested by a served agency or recognized volunteer organization. The encryption should not obscure the identification of the stations sending the data, and copies of all such data must be maintained for inspection.

Thank You

William F. Osler