

To the Federal Communications Commission

Comments Regarding IB 04-286, Public Notice DA 14-88

Specifically the possible addition of spectrum to the 60 Meter Amateur Radio Band.

The current allocation for Amateur Radio in the 60 Meter spectrum consists of five discrete channels, Upper Sideband only, restricted to 100 Watts ERP.

This is a unique operating method for Amateurs as all the other high-frequency allocations are contiguous bands where Amateurs may operate anywhere in the spectrum, subject to license class and mode restrictions.

This method of operation on 60 Meter should be preserved in any new allocations.

One of the reasons for a channelized format was because Amateurs are secondary in this spectrum, primary users are government radio operations. A channelized format restricted to Upper Sideband conforms to the operations of the primary users, and makes it easier for the primary operators to be heard and clear the channel when they need to use it. Going away from this method will make it more difficult on the primary users.

My comments on how to add more spectrum in the Amateur allocation at 60 Meters are:

1. Keep the channelized format as a regulation as it is now.
2. Conform the channel allocations internationally, as far as practicable
3. Set the transmitted power level back to 50 Watts ERP, or at worst, keep it at 100W ERP
4. Keep the use of Upper Sideband as a regulation as it is now.
5. Remove the use of CW emissions from this spectrum - CW is an obsolete, outdated mode, and not used in any service other than Amateur.
6. If we must keep digital modes and CW in the spectrum, then allocate some channels as Digital-Only, most of the channels voice-only, and a few mixed. (Assuming there are enough channels to make this work.)

I believe that adding more channels under the rules listed above will preserve the unique characteristics of this part of the amateur spectrum, and minimize potential interference, especially to the Primary users in this spectrum.

Sincerely,

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