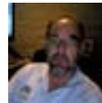


From: Michael Marcus <mjmarcus@marcus-spectrum.com>
Subject: EB, "emerging interference" issues, and Docket 14-25
Date: March 24, 2014 11:26:34 AM EDT
To: Travis.LeBlanc@fcc.gov



Mr. LeBlanc,

Welcome to FCC. I am a retired FCC manager who worked at FCC for nearly 25 years, mostly in OET but about 7 years in FOB – one of EB's predecessor. Perhaps I am best known for proposing in the early 1980s the rules that became the basis for Wi-Fi and Bluetooth. (See <http://www.marcus-spectrum.com/page4/SSHist.html>)

I thought I would take the advantage of your arrival at FCC to address several issues you might want to consider. While I am now working as a consultant in spectrum policy, none of these issues directly affect my present or past clients and this discussion is motivated purely in the public interest. This message addresses one issue subject to "permit but disclose" *ex parte* rules and will be filed as required. A subsequent message will address other issues not subject to such rules.

Diane Cornell's excellent "Process Reform Report", http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-14-199A2.pdf, has many great ideas for improving FCC. In my comments I discussed one which should be of special interest to EB: regularizing the treatment of "emerging interference" issues which relates to **Recommendation 2.22: Improve Tracking and Analysis of Complaint Data for Internal Commission Use** (p.29).

In the past 2 decades FCC has a very poor record in dealing with new types of interference that are **not** a violation of existing rules – probably because the problems lies between EB and various bureaus and no one want ownership. These incidents come from rapidly evolving technology in a world with less detailed technical regulation than in the past. This lower level of regulation has allowed great technical innovation, but it must be recognized that an increase of unanticipated interference intersystem phenomenon is an inevitable result that needs attention from time to time. While these are not violations, often the EB staff is the first to become aware of them due to their locations closers to spectrum users and because they often *initially* appear to be violations.

In my filing I discuss several cases where many years were needed to address the causes of this interference with new rules. But such new interference is inevitable in the rapidly evolving wireless industry and other spectrum users that move at "Internet speed", while FCC of necessity acts at "government speed", often even *slow* government speed unless a major party is pushing a problem.

Because of its role EB is often the first to hear of emerging interference causes, but has been reluctant in the past to take an active role in publicizing the issues within FCC and with the public. As indicated in my filing, I believe that EB should take a more active role in reporting new problems and urging explicit decisions by the affected bureaus on which need urgent regulation action and which need benign neglect. (As mentioned, a recurring problem of interference to TV, cellular, and even GPS reception from indoor TV antennas with builtin amplifiers, rare prior to DTV, is now a borderline case for action but it little known outside EB and might be a good case study.)

This general problem is discussed in more detail, with detailed references, on p. 1-12 of my comments on the report that are filed in Docket 14-25 (<http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view?id=7521083366>)

I hope you will have time to meet on this issue in the next week or 2 as you get settled.

Welcome to FCC!

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cc: ECFS Docket 14-25