

My name is Peter Wilson, VK3BZF (previously VK3FOMW and VK3MOW)

I am a licenced amateur radio operator, since 2012, and have in the past two years obtained my advanced licence, VK3BZF. I am active on most bands from 80 meters to 23cms including a growing interest in digital and EME. I have often been curious about the 60-meter band and saw it working in person last year when my family and I travelled to the UK and US. The access to this band was positive for short range reliable communication which enables amateurs another important option down in these frequencies. Further, the 60-meter band is a logical move to provide access to the amateur radio operator have evenly spaced access across the entire HF spectrum.

As with any band, including 40 meters, there is much sharing that amateur radio operators regularly do. The training of amateur radio operators from the very beginning is about the respect for the bands which we are privileged to have access to. Further there is constant discussion about the privileges we have and our responsibilities we have and respect for other users of the bands that we share. We are constantly asked to, and do demonstrate restraint particularly relating to sticking to the bands allocated, awareness and acting to remedy if we are causing interference, demonstrating courtesy and respect to our fellow operators and others and acting responsibly at all times. These qualities are demonstrated by us all on a daily basis and ACMA's role in supporting operators in our best practice continues to regulate the amateur radio operator sector.

The benefits of being able to use the 60-meter band with an EIRP power of 15 watts, if granted, would bring this country into line with most of the world and would fill a long - standing gap. While I haven't the geographical space to set up an antenna for 630 meters, the 60-meter band is much more accessible and would be greatly appreciated by the amateur radio operator community in Australia.

I support option 1 of the ACMA 60-meter band proposal, which would greatly increase the utility of the amateur radio hobby and there would be very few problems as is the case with all the other HF bands. Finally the hobby would be of even greater interest to SWL's and other people contemplating attaining an amateur radio licence. In particular it will further inspire F and Standard call licence holders attain their advanced licences to have access to the other bands. Finally, if the 60- meter band was approved, companies such as ICOM would have little difficulty bringing equipment to this country already set up to function on the 60- meter band. This would be important as many of us with small children and not much time don't have the options and or skills to build a transverter for this band.

I would welcome feedback and am happy to participate in further consultation about this issue and more generally the appropriate and respectful use of the RF spectrum in this country.

Thank you

Peter Wilson,
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