

Possible use of the 5351.5-5366.5 kHz band by the amateur service.

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Amateur Radio Operator: Broadcast Station Operator: VK3OT:

Qualifications: AOCPP 1976 BOCPP 1969.

Options:

- Option 1: Australia-wide access to the whole band (5351.5–5366.5 kHz) but excluding Queensland and zones around existing transmitters.
- Option 2: Australia-wide access to 5351.5–5365 kHz, that is, exclude the top 1.5 kHz to mitigate against most known sharing issues.
- Option 3: Segmented and/or channelised use to mitigate against interference to existing services.
- Option 4: No amateur use.

To whom it may concern:

My choice is Option 2:

Australia wide access in favor of the channelised access which in my opinion presents too many issues reprogramming firmware on a range of transceivers.

Amateurs in Australia for decades have had the ability to check their frequencies to avoid inadvertently transmitting outside of their band limits and have been self regulating in this responsibility.

If option one was imposed Queensland operators would be excluded from the rest of Australia and suffer the same fate as well all do on the 80 meter band, where our trans-Tasman cousins in New Zealand have 1 kW above 3.800 MHz privileges, and we do not. This frequency limit may prevent strong Australian stations from interfering with land mobile services but I well imagine the New Zealanders would be just as likely to cause interference beyond Australia's jurisdiction.

Option 2 will rely upon Australian amateurs to avoid interfering with and not transmitting when frequencies are occupied just like applies now on the amateur bands. With modern data transmissions I do not see the narrow band proposed will prevent anywhere near the problems that SSB transmissions will cause and suggest if there is any concerns about the co-sharing of this band that the ACMA make it a narrow band mode and exclude SSB VOICE.

Signed

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