

Proposed Amateur Class Licence and Considerations for Higher Power Operation

Response by Graeme Small VK2HFG Standard Licence No [REDACTED].

I am a member of the Wagga Amateur Radio Club (VK2WG) and support the club's response with one additional comment for question 1.

Consultation Questions

1. Do you see any reason for not extending secondary user access to the 50–52 MHz band for Standard amateurs

No, 50 to 52 MHz should be available for Standard Licensed Amateurs. It is incongruous to us that Standard licence holders have access to one part of the 6metre band but not the other. The lower part of the band is where all distant contacts and digital mode contacts are made which places this licence grade at a disadvantage for no technical reason.

For the same reason, I request that Standard licensed amateurs also have access to the 30 metre band (10.100 MHz - 10.150 MHz) which is currently restricted to Advanced licensed amateurs. Propagation on this band across Australia's outback is significantly superior to that of the 40 metre band thus providing more safety for remote travellers, either for voice contacts or using a digital mode such as the existing 30 metre APRS service which includes a messaging facility. Having travelled in remote areas myself, I have experienced first-hand that 40 metre communication can be virtually non-existent at certain times of the day yet others using 30 metre communication don't suffer from this limitation.

Please open this band to Standard licensed amateurs for their safety when travelling in remote areas of Australia.

Graeme Small

VK2HFG

27th November 2022

Operating 40 metre and 2 metre APRS TX igates with full messaging support.