

The Manager
Spectrum Licensing Policy Section
Australian Communications and Media Authority
PO Box 13112
Law Courts, Melbourne VIC 8010

Re: Consultation paper May 23 - Proposed changes to amateur access in the 50–52 MHz and 3.4–3.6 GHz frequency bands

Dear Spectrum Licensing Policy Section Manager,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed changes to amateur access in the 50–52 MHz and 3.4–3.6 GHz frequency bands.

I have carefully considered the 2 proposed changes set out in this consultation paper and have provided my views below:

● **Proposed changes to amateur access in the 50–52 MHz band :**

I do not support any amendment to the permitted frequencies for amateur licensees as specified in the current Amateur Licence LCD in the 50-52 MHz segment of the 6m band as, a pathway to enhanced privileges in this band already exists. If an amateur wishes to use this part of the band, they can work to upgrade their qualification.

I believe that allowing standard licence holders the use of the 50-52 MHz portion of the 6m band will only further erode the incentive for these licensees to further their technical knowledge and upgrade their qualifications. In a time when we should all be encouraging everyone to become more knowledgeable, the only real outcome from this proposed amendment is a smaller pool of fully qualified amateur radio operators.

● **Proposed changes to amateur access in the 3.4–3.6 GHz frequency band :**

I support this amendment in full. I believe that removal of this band in full from amateur privileges will be inconsequential to the amateur fraternity given the current restrictions to access of this band.

From all the consultations to date, additional privileges have been granted to standard and foundation licence holders while advanced amateurs have been afforded no real gains in privileges. It is disconcerting that advanced amateur radio operators in Australia can not even be granted an increase in their maximum RF output power to put us on par with most of our neighbours. This is a disgraceful situation which places amateur radio in Australia years behind the rest of the world.

Again, thank you for allowing amateur radio operators to voice their opinions on matters which concern them.

Yours sincerely

Peter Dawson VK4XO

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