

Sean McQueen

From: Spectrum Licensing Policy
Sent: Monday, 10 August 2020 4:56 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ACMA Customer Service Centre; Spectrum Licensing Policy
Subject: RE: FW: Re: ACMA amateur radio e-bulletin [Ref: CSC2020-23239]
CRM:001214010734 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Categories: Sean

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

We engaged with the AMC, RASA and the WIA on the changes to call sign policy. We were not approached with proposals for changes to the current arrangements for 2-letter suffix call signs. At this time, we consider that the existing arrangements are consistent with the views of the amateur community.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Regards

Sean McQueen
Spectrum Licensing Policy

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Received: Thu Jul 30 2020 10:17:30 GMT+1000 (AUS Eastern Standard Time)
To: ACMA Customer Service Centre; Mail Delivery System; System Contact
Subject: Re: ACMA amateur radio e-bulletin

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I have a couple of questions that you might be able to help me with please.

The first relates to the **Changes in call sign policy**

I can see value in allowing holders of any level of AOCF to apply for and receive a 3 letter suffix.
This surely will alleviate some administrative functions, open up the pool and will remove some of the "bad behaviour" that I have seen directed at holders of a 4 letter suffix.
Having some 3 letter suffixes on a "reserved list" makes sense.

Could you please let me know the rationale of only allowing the 2 letter suffixes to be available to AOCF(A) holders?
There does not seem to be any technical reason for this.

In fact it appears to be contrary to the new policy where the nexus between Licence Qualification level and callsign has so clearly been broken.

I have already heard comments that include the words "discrimination" and "confirmation of elitism" in relation to this.

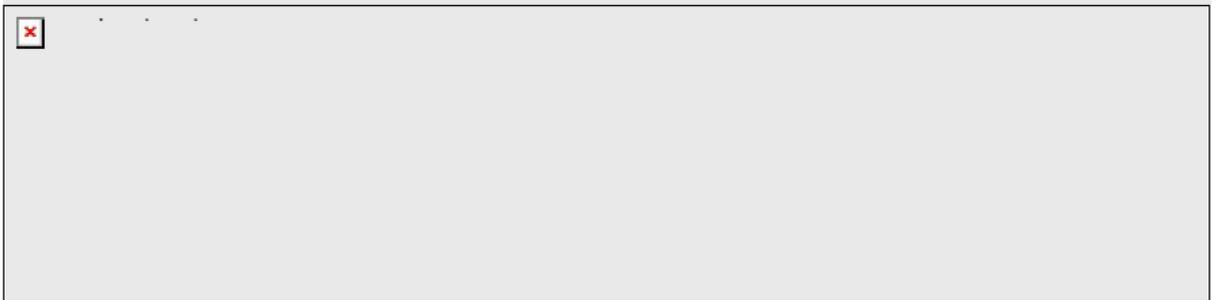
I think this information would be appreciated by others as well.

[Redacted]

From: The ACMA [<mailto:info@acma.gov.au>]

Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020, 4:11 PM

Subject: ACMA amateur radio e-bulletin



29 July 2020

Welcome to the amateur radio e-bulletin. Our e-bulletins highlight the latest amateur service information and ACMA regulatory activities affecting amateur radio, including recent and upcoming public consultations.

Changes in call sign policy

We've made some administrative changes that give amateurs more options and flexibility, and a more active role in self-managing call signs.

The changes will facilitate access to a wider range of digital modes for foundation licensees, and provide a 'call sign for life' for all licensees by:

- allowing all amateurs to obtain a three-letter call sign
- removing the association between call sign suffixes and qualifications.

Read more about [call sign changes](#), including your options and what to do if you move.

RF exclusion zone calculator

To help you comply with your [electromagnetic energy \(EME\) obligations](#), we've developed a new simple [RF exclusion zone calculator](#) for the far-field region of the antenna. This calculator uses the free-space transmission equation from the AS/NZS 2772.2 Standard and provides a maximum circular exclusion zone for a transmitting antenna.

Future arrangements for syllabus reviews

We've decided to revise the process for updating the amateur radio syllabus. This is because the Syllabus Review Panel established by the ACMA in November 2019 has been unable to

reach consensus on the minor changes required to align the foundation syllabus with the amateur licensing framework.

Find out more about [syllabus review changes](#).

Amateur radio fact sheet

We've developed a [fact sheet](#) to help outline our role in regulating amateur radio, the role of the Australian Maritime College (AMC) in amateur qualifications and call signs, and to provide some general information about regulation for amateur radio.

Upcoming consultation: Review of non-assigned amateur and outpost licensing

We're currently looking into the most appropriate licensing mechanisms and conditions for non-assigned amateur and outpost licences and will be asking for feedback.

The upcoming consultation will examine our existing licensing options, and whether this approach is appropriate for the future, and will propose reforms to streamline and reduce regulatory, administrative, and financial burdens on licensees and the ACMA.

Further information about the review is available in the draft [Five-year spectrum outlook 2020–24](#).

Please note that this consultation has been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and we now expect to consult in Q4 2020. We'll let you know when it commences.

Your questions answered

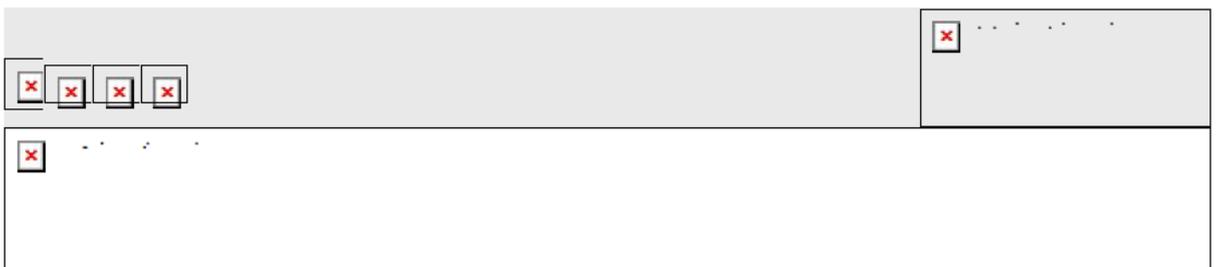
We often get questions about whether communicating with someone operating outside the conditions of the Amateur LCD is a breach of the LCD.

The answer is: no.

As long as you operate within the terms of the LCD, another person's behaviour, such as using the wrong frequency band, cannot put you in breach of the LCD.

Useful links

- [Amateur radio on the ACMA website](#)
- [Amateur radio operating procedures](#)
- [Radiocommunications Licence Conditions \(Amateur Licence\) Determination 2015 \(the Amateur LCD\)](#)
- [Amateur radio on the AMC website](#)



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