

Gympie Communications & Electronics Group Inc.

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VK4GYM - Old Gympie Railway Station, Tozer St. Gympie



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

Re: Review of non-assigned amateur and outpost regulatory arrangements – consultation 01/2021

Dear Spectrum Licensing Policy Section Manager

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Review of Non-assigned Amateur and Outpost Regulatory Arrangements – Consultation 01/2021.

On behalf of Gympie Communications & Electronics Group Inc. I would like to pass on the following response to the consultation paper.

The following options under review:

- **Option A:** keep the existing apparatus licensing arrangements and licence conditions.
- **Option B:** simplify the current licensing arrangements and licence conditions by amending the amateur LCD.
- **Option C:** transition to class licensing arrangements for non-assigned amateur stations, with assigned amateur stations continuing to be authorised under apparatus licensing.

The concerns that have been expressed by the members is that for Option B there is insufficient information as to the changes and conditions, so feel we could not support this option.

With Option C the main issue with the proposal that, under a class licence, “amateurs would operate on a “no interference, no protection” basis. This means that a person is authorised to operate an amateur station under the class licence on the condition that it does not cause interference to other devices and services, and will generally not be afforded any protection, should it experience interference.”

As ACMA are managers of the RF spectrum, we feel they have a responsibility to all users, regardless of what licence they operate under.

We realise that ACMA resources are drastically reduced, and it is not possible for an ACMA Radio Inspector to physically attend every amateur radio related interference complaint.

In the past most amateur radio operators usually investigate and, as far as possible, try to resolve any interference problems themselves.

However, our members feel that the ACMA must retain final responsibility for oversight of amateur radio interference issues.

Therefore, our members currently **only support Option A.**

If the ACMA is prepared to modify the proposed Class Licence to address the concerns of the amateur fraternity, then our members would be prepared to support Option C.

Many thanks once again for allowing our group to pass comment.

Yours Sincerely

Catherine Robinson VK4CCR

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