

Draft CEPT Brief on Agenda item 1.15

to consider a secondary allocation to the amateur service in the frequency band 135.7-137.8 kHz;

Issue

In the period 1994-2004, more than 20 administrations have given domestic amateur allocations or have authorized experimental amateur communications in the low-frequency range including 73 kHz, 135.7-137.8 kHz, and 160-190 kHz.

In 1997, amateurs in Europe were given formal authority to operate in an LF band pursuant to the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) Recommendation 62-01 E (Mainz 1997), which pertains to the use of the band 135.7-137.8 kHz by the amateur service. Currently, amateurs are active in the band 135.7-137.8 kHz in more than 25 European countries. Operation in the Russian Federation has been authorized in both the European and Asiatic parts of the Federation.

In Region 3 New Zealand has granted an allocation to the amateur service in this band, and Australia has authorized some experimental communication.

In Region 2, a number of South American countries have authorized amateur use of the 135.7-137.8 kHz band, and Canadian and American amateurs have been conducting communications under experimental licences. With the approval of the CEPT Recommendation in Europe, France has also authorized the use of the band 135.7-137.8 kHz by St. Pierre and Miquelon, Martinique and Guadeloupe.

At the WRC 2003 Canada put forward a proposal for a secondary allocation of this frequency band to the amateur service. However as the issue was not on the agenda for the WRC 2003 the conference did not take any action on the issue other than proposing the issue to be on the agenda for WRC 2007.

Preliminary CEPT position

As ERC Recommendation 62-01 concerning the use of this frequency band was adopted in 1997 and a number of CEPT member countries have since allowed use of the band by its radio amateurs, CEPT should support a secondary allocation to the amateur service in the frequency band 135.7-137.8 kHz and develop an ECP.

Background

The recommends of Recommendation 62-01 reads :

- 1) that the band 135.7-137.8 kHz may be used with a maximum e.r.p. of 1 Watt on a secondary basis by the Amateur Service in CEPT countries.”

Proposals from other regional organizations countries and other entities

CITEL

Preliminary Views

Brazil, Canada, Argentina and Uruguay support a world-wide secondary allocation for the amateur service at 135.7-137.8 kHz with the necessary limitations to protect the allocated services in the band.

ITU-R

Working Party 8A considered WRC-07 Agenda Item 1.15 at a recent meeting, which took place in Geneva in April 2005.

Progress of studies: It was noted that the regulatory and procedural aspects of this Agenda Item could be achieved through the modifications to Article 5.

Preliminary text for the CPM06 Report has been prepared and presented in 8A/TEMP/93-E, the document also contains proposed amendments to Article 5 of the Radio Regulations.

APT

Preliminary views

APT member countries present at APG2007-2 support a world-wide secondary allocation to the amateur service in the band 135.7-137.8 kHz with the required limitations to protect the other services to which the band is already allocated. The inclusion of an option in the draft CPM Report of an allocation by table entry rather than by footnote is also supported.

RCC

Allocation of a frequency band on a secondary basis to the amateur service in the frequency band 135.7-137.8 kHz is supported.