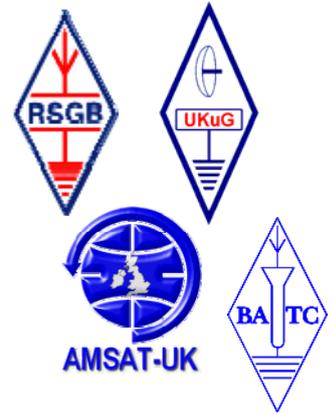


Notice of Ofcom's proposal to make regulations in connection with the award of 10GHz, 28GHz 32GHz and 40GHz

Joint response from the Radio Society of Great Britain, UK Microwave Group, Amsat-UK and BATC.

September 17th 2007



Introduction

This response is a joint one to the above Ofcom discussion document from the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB, www.rsgb.org.uk) and its national affiliates who have microwave spectrum interests - Amsat-UK (www.uk.amsat.org), UK Microwave Group (UKuG, www.microwavers.org), and the British Amateur Television Club (BATC, www.batc.org.uk). In addition we acknowledge contributions on Amateur Satellite data from international Amsat Societies as part of a broad team effort.

RSGB is recognised as one of the leading organisations in the world in the field of amateur radio. It collaborates with its fellow national societies via the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) through IARU Region-1 (www.iaru-r1.org).

Amateur radio is a science based technical hobby enjoyed by over three million people worldwide. From a statutory point of view it is fully recognised by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) as a Service and is listed in the ITU Radio Regulations as the Amateur Service and the Amateur-Satellite Service.

Having participated and provided previous submissions to the 10GHz auction process, we thank Ofcom for this further opportunity to comment

We would be pleased to provide any additional information on request or participate in any future discussions, both with Ofcom and any other stakeholder who has an interest in these bands.

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RSGB, Amsat-UK, UKuG & BATC, September 2007

Consultation Question and Answer

Question

Do stakeholders agree with the proposed statutory instruments set out in this notice for the award of this spectrum?

Answer

This single question covers a document of 105 pages and four bands. In addition there was a 38 page regulatory statement on August-7 regarding the auction and previous submissions/options.

Our comments are concerned purely with the 10GHz band where we note a change of packaging to smaller 10MHz lots and mention in the statements and documentation about mask relaxations to facilitate lot mergers

Band, GHz	Auction Frequencies	Original Package	Amended Proposal
10	10.125 -10.225 & 10.475 -10.525	Single 2 x 100MHz lot	Ten 2 x 10MHz lots

Previous submissions by RSGB and its affiliated societies (and IARU) have concentrated on our opposition to and concerns with the 10GHz auction and in particular, the overlap with the Amateur Satellite Service allocation at 10.475-10.500. In addition other amateur applications exist in the non-auctioned segments.

With respect to the current consultation we have no comments regarding the auction design but **we do request that Ofcom confirm that modifications to masks or out of band emissions only apply to merging lots within the auction segments - and do not also permit an increase in out-of-band emissions outside of the auction bands that may further increase levels of harmful interference to adjacent services, including the Amateur and Amateur Satellite Services**

We also note that this aspect is not explicitly included in the Regulatory Impact Assessment

RSGB, Amsat-UK, UKuG & BATC - September 2007.