I write to you on behalf of the Mississauga Amateur Radio Club, an active Radio Amateurs of Canada Affiliated amateur radio club of over one hundred members, regarding Canada Gazette, Part I, Notice SMSE-010-12, May 4 2012. “Consultation on Changes to the Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations and to RBR-4 to Allow for Amateur Radio Service Use in the 5 MHz Band” and to provide comments on the points specified:

(1) Should Industry Canada allow amateur radio operators to use the five frequencies 5332 kHz, 5348 kHz, 5358.5 kHz, 5373 kHz and 5405 kHz, which are harmonized with U.S. amateur use, on a no-protection, no-interference basis? Transmissions would be restricted to a 2.8 kHz bandwidth centred on each of these frequencies.

Yes, these frequencies should be allowed. These frequencies are needed for additional emergency communication capacity and having harmonization on frequency with the US will allow for cross border operation.

(2) Should Industry Canada harmonize emission modes and designators with those specified in the United States for these five frequencies – i.e. telephony (2K80J3E), data (2K80J2D), RTTY (60H0J2B) and CW (150HA1A)?

Yes, given that both regional and cross-border use would be expected, harmonized emission modes would benefit Canadian amateurs in communicating with our American counterparts.

(3) Should Industry Canada specify a maximum effective radiated power of 100 W peak envelope power?

Again, given the cross-border nature of the five channels, this appears to be a reasonable restriction.

(4) Should Industry Canada allow Canadian amateurs access to the 5329 kHz frequency for domestic communications only? Transmissions would be restricted to a 2.8 kHz bandwidth centred on this frequency.
Yes, as this will help foster Canadian-specific use of this frequency band.

(5) Should Industry Canada specify emission designators and peak envelope power for this additional frequency? If so, what should these be?

No, insofar as there are no cross-border factors to consider, then restrictions should be as few as possible. Emission type should be the choice of the user, and the power the limit of their license class.

Thanks for your time and attention

Scott Gregory
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President Mississauga Amateur Radio Club