

The ARRL had an ex parte meeting with the FCC to modify the appendix of the petition they had previously submitted to the FCC in November of 2005 - RM-11306.

One of these "modifications" to the ARRL petition has the potential to cause serious harm to CW operation. The ARRL wants to increase the maximum bandwidth for digital and RTTY to six times the current limit from 500 Hertz to 3 kHz.

Allowing these wide-band digital signals free run of the CW spectrum will literally kill CW operations on most bands.

The League (or should I say the "National Association for Amateur Radio", as they now refer to themselves) is fully aware of the consequences of such a proposal. And why is this modification being kept so quiet? It wasn't on their web page in a prominent place; I couldn't find it!. We don't have to remind you that when the code/no code controversy began years ago, they went against the results of their own poll and supported the elimination of the code requirement, even after the majority of the ARRL members voted to retain it.

The proposed modification to RM-11306 will be up on the FISTS web page soon, so you can read it in its entirety (<http://www.fists.org>).

When I first saw this modification, it was so outrageous that I thought it might be a hoax. I spoke with Bill Cross at the FCC, who assured me that it was genuine. He told me the FCC is reading all the comments posted on the FCC web page and we should make our concerns about these 3kHz digital transmissions known, as they are being taken into consideration when the FCC decides whether to act on this proposal or not.

To file a comment, or read comments posted by others, go to <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>

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The proceeding you are commenting on is RM-11306.

Normally, I would also recommend that you write the ARRL officials and let them know your feelings on the subject, but it's pretty obvious that they have their own agenda and will do whatever they darn well please.

Enough is enough, please read the modifications and post your comments to the FCC.

Together we can make a difference before it really is too late.

73 88 Nancy WZ8C