

## Amateur radio – Operating in the 5 MHz experimental bands from 1 August 2006 until 30 June 2010

### Update for licensees

- 1.1 In July 2002, following agreement with the Ministry of Defence (the "MOD"), Ofcom was able to permit operation of stations by amateur radio (full) licensees ("Full Licensees") using specified frequencies in the 5 MHz band. Those Full Licensees who expressed an interest to operate in the 5 MHz band were granted permission to operate through a Notice of Variation ("NoV") to their existing licence.
- 1.2 These NoVs have been issued on the condition that operation in the 5 MHz band (which is suited to Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) operation) is for experimental purposes. Those Full Licensees who were issued with a NoV were encouraged to submit reports of their findings to the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB).
- 1.3 These NoVs are due to expire on 31 July 2006.
- 1.4 Although activity in the 5 MHz frequency band does not appear to be significant, there is still some interest from Full Licensees and the RSGB has requested that Ofcom permit the continued use of the 5 MHz frequency band and, furthermore, include some additional channels. Ofcom has agreed with the MOD to permit such experimental operation until 30 June 2010, on the basis described below.
- 1.5 It is understood that not all existing NoV holders are participating in the experiment and hence Ofcom has decided to issue new NoVs on the basis of new applications for operation in the 5 MHz band. The updated application form will be available at <http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radiocomms/ifi/licensing/classes/amateur/applications/>

### Basis for operation

The sample NoV<sup>1</sup> is given below.

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<sup>1</sup> Where this NoV applies to a revised format Full Licence issued from the proposed date of 1 October 2006, relevant changes to clause references and appropriate amendments will apply.

**WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY ACT 1949**

**NOTICE OF VARIATION<sup>1</sup> OF AMATEUR RADIO (FULL) LICENCE**

<b>Name of Licensee:</b>	
<b>Licensee's Main Station Address</b>	
<b>Postcode</b>	
<b>Telephone Number(s)</b>	
<b>Licensee's Call Sign:</b>	
<b>Date of Issue of this Notice of Variation:</b>	

Ofcom, in exercise of the power conferred by section 1(4) of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949, hereby varies the terms, provisions and limitations of the Licensee's Amateur Radio (Full) Licence ("the Licence") as follows:

1 Terms and expressions defined in the Licence shall have the same meaning herein except where the context requires otherwise.

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<sup>1</sup> Where this NoV applies to a revised format Full Licence issued from the proposed date of 1 October 2006, relevant changes to clause references and appropriate amendments will apply.

2 In this Notice “the Booklet” means the “Amateur Radio Licence Full Terms, Provisions and Limitations Booklet BR68” as amended from time to time the terms of which form part of the Licence.

3 As and from the Date of Issue the Licence shall be varied so that:-

(1) The following is added to “Limitations on Use”:

**Operation on Experimental Bands at 5MHz**

2(15) When operating on frequencies between 5.2585MHz and 5.4065MHz (the "Experimental Bands") the additional terms in this clause 2(15) shall apply.

- (a) Messages and signals shall be those required for the purpose of arranging and conducting radio propagation experiments, which includes Messages sent on behalf of User Services pursuant to sub-clauses 1(2) and 12(1)(o);
- (b) The Licensee shall only operate the Station within a controlled net pursuant to sub-clause 1(7)(c);
- (c) Close down or restriction of operation on any or all frequencies in these experimental bands may additionally be requested either immediately or for such time period as may be specified by a person acting on behalf of the Ministry of Defence;
- (d) Communication may also be established with military or military cadet organisations by transmitting and receiving only in the Experimental Bands;
- (e) Particular care shall be taken to ensure radiation does not take place outside the Experimental Bands specified in the Schedule;
- (f) The Licensee shall only operate the Station at the Main Station Address or a Temporary Location within the United Kingdom. When at a Temporary Location, the location of the Station shall be given at the beginning of operation, every 30 minutes in accordance with sub-clause 7(3)(a), OR be notified in accordance with 7(3)(b);
- (g) Operation of the Station must not cause interference to primary users of the Experimental Bands specified in the Schedule to this Licence and the Licensee must accept any interference caused by use of the Experimental Bands by the primary users of the Experimental Bands in accordance with the UK Frequency Allocation Table; and

(h) the Licensee shall only operate the Station to the extent that the Licensee is contactable on a telephone which is located in close proximity to the Station.

(2) The following is added to the Schedule:

1	2	3	4	5
Frequency Bands in MHz	Status of Allocations in the United Kingdom to:		Maximum Power Level in Watts (dB relative to one Watt) PEP	Permitted types of transmission
	The Amateur Service	The Amateur Satellite Service		
5-2585 – 5-2615 5-2785 – 5-2815 5-2885 – 5-2915 5-3665 – 5-3695 5-3715 – 5-3745 5-3985 – 5-4015 5-4035 – 5-4065	Secondary  Available on the basis of non-interference to other services inside the UK	(not allocated)	200W (23dBW)	Morse Telephony RTTY Data Facsimile SSTV

4 The Licensee is invited to comply with the "Operating Procedures" 5 MHz doc.02 or (subsequent issues) available at [http://www.rsgb-spectrumforum.org.uk/Papers/HF/Operating%20Procedures%20v3\\_3.pdf](http://www.rsgb-spectrumforum.org.uk/Papers/HF/Operating%20Procedures%20v3_3.pdf) on a voluntary basis.

5 This Notice of Variation expires at 23.59 on 30 June 2010.

Signature .....

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**Date of Issue:**