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Representing: Self

What are your comments on these proposals?

The implications of analogue switch off have not been fully evaluated or not adequately made public.

The physics of radio propagation is being ignored.

Advantage is being made of the ignorance of law makers.

Full radio coverage employing digital compression and VHF/UHF bands will require many more relay transmitters than currently in use.

More transmitters will be needed because reception of digital transmission requires a better signal to noise ratio. A low signal level will give poor but acceptable AM and VHF FM reception but no digital reception.

I estimate that 20% of the population will be unable to use portable digital radios around the house. An external antenna will be required. Note applies not only to valleys and country areas but also in urban areas due to reflections cancelling the signal.

5 to 10 and of the population particularly in hilly country areas will have no reception

The effect of the above will be for the population to continue to employ AM / FM receivers but to tune to illegal and overseas broadcasters who will set up specifically for the purpose.

Car radio even with RDS are unsuitable for hilly country areas, for universal reception from a vehicle Long Wave transmission is the obvious technical choice.

The primary UK Long wave transmitter gives good reception even deep Devon valleys, all on one transmitter.

A broadcast system to take advantage of long wave propagation characteristics would be to employ digital compression on the long wave signal to provide stereo high quality or a few lower quality channels.

There would be no need for relay transmitters, no need for another external antenna on every home.

A radio broadcast system must be employed that provides universal coverage to simple portable receivers otherwise the population will choose an option that does.