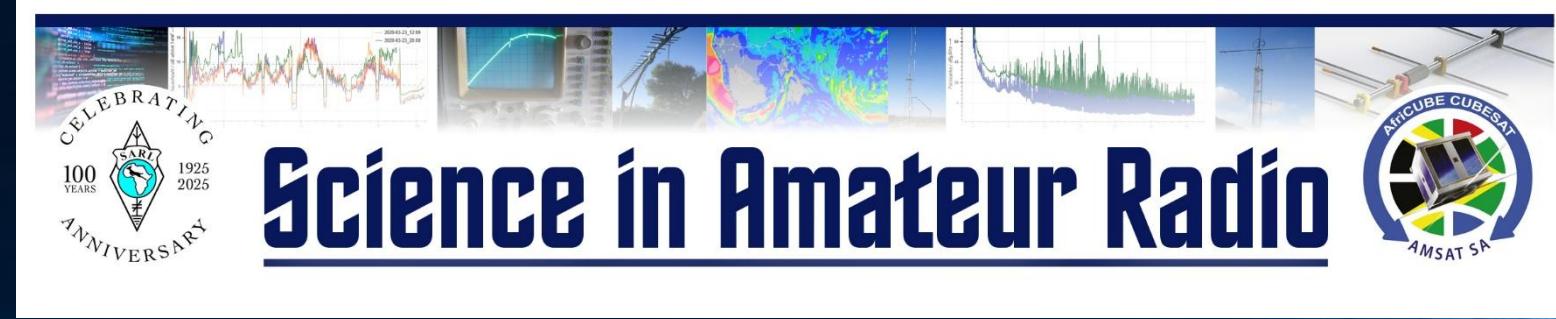




Entering the second Centuary



The second draft of the Draft National Radio Frequency Plan 2025 – SARL Perspective

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Pioneering Wireless Communication



Radio Amateurs were integral in the science community who developed wireless communication, alias radio and are still operating at the edge of technology today.

- Using the callsign A4Z, John Streeter, a Cape Town radio amateur, made South Africa's first intercontinental contact with Brazil and USA (1925)

The ITU and Amateur Radio Radio Regulations

- **1.56** *amateur service*: A *radiocommunication service* for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateurs, that is, by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.
- **1.57** *amateur-satellite service*: A *radiocommunication service* using *space stations* on earth *satellites* for the same purposes as those of the *amateur service*

Technology developments have also impacted on Amateur Radio and we are embracing it

- As technology has developed so has the amateur service with a current greater emphasis on technical investigations as set out in 1.56 of the definition.
- This also requires a fresh look as some of the power limits still in the Radio Frequency plan.
- In term of 25.7 of the regulation this paper will make recommendations for consideration by ICASA before the final plan is gazetted.

ITU 25.7 § 4

The maximum power of amateur stations shall be fixed by the administrations concerned. (WRC-03)

135.7 – 137.8 kHz and 472-479 kHz

- **135.7 – 137.8 kHz** Footnote 5.67A limits the power to 1-watt eirp
- **472-479 kHz** Footnote 5.80 not applicable in South Africa. 5.80A covers the power restriction in countries at least 800 km away from a list of countries. As South Africa meets that criteria, 5Watt eirp is permitted.
- As the transmit power of stations operating on the 135,7 and 472 kHz bands will not impact on other countries, the SARL proposes that 20dBw is allowed, which is the power limit on amateur bands where the allocation is secondary.
- **The aim is to encourage more experimentation on these two bands, as envisage in the definition of Amateur Radio in 1.56**

1810 -1850 kHz and 1850 – 2000 kHz

- Various power limits are indicated for different areas in footnotes 5.2 5.96 and 5.100.
- The SARL proposes that the power limit on 1810 – 2000 kHz is set at 30 dBW as in annexure I of the 1995 Radio Regulations Gov Gazette 38641

24.0 – 24.25

- **24.0 - 24.05 GHz Notes and comments should refer to Annexure I**
- **24.05 – 24.25 GHz Notes and comments should refer to Annexure I**

430 – 440 MHz

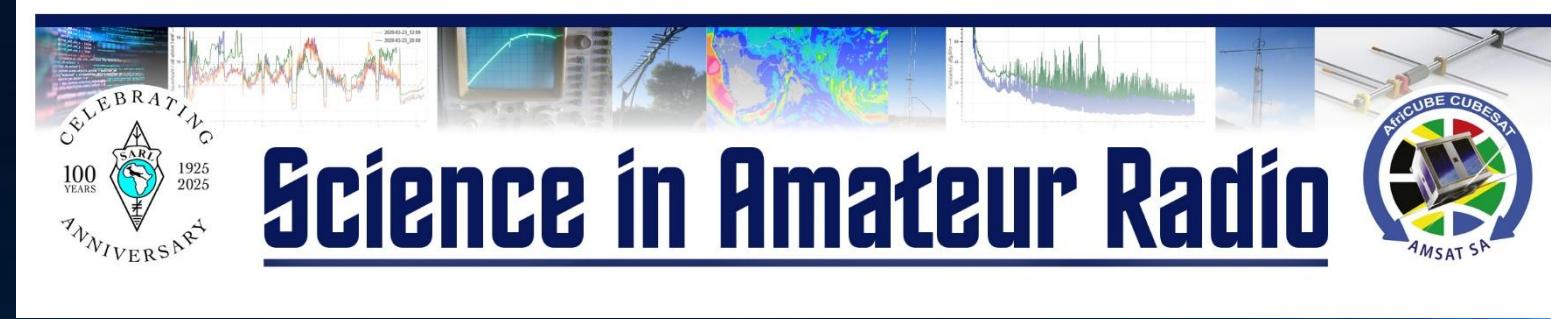
- There are many footnotes pertaining to this band which have little impact on Amateur Radio except the ISM allocation 433.5 – 434.79 MHz.
- According to annexure B3 of the 1995 Radio Frequency Regulations the power limit is 10 mW. Equipment freely available in South Africa operates on 5 watt and is not programmed to operate within the frequency spectrum for ISM.
- Many owners of the equipment operate outside the ISM band.
- We understand that this is an enforcement issue and not a spectrum issue. However, it is a protection issue for which ICASA as the regulator is responsible, hence we are bringing it to your attention.

National Radio Frequency Plan 2025

- The plan generally does not specify the power limits which are generally covered in various annexes to the Radio Frequency regulations of which the last version was gazetted in 1995
- The SARL believes that it would be prudent if the annexes would be updated in line with the Frequency Plan.
- Alternatively, the power limits could be added in the notes and comment column



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Thank You