

October 21, 2022

To: Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairwoman
Brendan Carr, Commissioner
Geoffrey Starks, Commissioner
Nathan Simington, Commissioner
Laura Smith, Law Enforcement
Federal Communications Commission

From: PRVIVFC Board

Subject: Recommendation of amendment to Part 97.205 (h)

Receive a cordial greeting to all from the PRVIVFC Board. For the purpose of this release, we have a recommendation to amend Part 97.205(h) which states the following:

(h) The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to repeaters that transmit on the 1.2 cm or shorter wavelength bands. Before establishing a repeater within 16 km (10 miles) of the Arecibo Observatory or before changing the transmitting frequency, transmitter power, antenna height or directivity of an existing repeater, the station licensee must give written notification thereof to the Interference Office, Arecibo Observatory, HC3 Box 53995, Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00612, in writing or electronically, of the technical parameters of the proposal. Licensees who choose to transmit information electronically should e-mail to: prcz@naic.edu.

(1) The notification shall state the geographical coordinates of the antenna (NAD-83 datum), antenna height above mean sea level (AMSL), antenna center of radiation above ground level (AGL), antenna directivity and gain, proposed frequency and FCC Rule Part, type of emission, effective radiated power, and whether the proposed use is itinerant. Licensees may wish to consult interference guidelines provided by Cornell University.

(2) If an objection to the proposed operation is received by the FCC from the Arecibo Observatory, Arecibo, Puerto Rico, within 20 days from the date of notification, the FCC will consider all aspects of the problem and take whatever action is deemed appropriate. The licensee will be required to make reasonable efforts in order to resolve or mitigate any potential interference problem with the Arecibo Observatory. [54 FR 25857, June 20, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 4613, Feb. 9, 1990; 56 FR 32517, July 17, 1991; 58 FR 64385, Dec. 7, 1993; 59 FR 18975, Apr. 21, 1994; 62 FR 55536, Oct. 27, 1997; 63 FR 41205, Aug. 3, 1998; 63 FR 68980, Dec. 14, 1998; 69 FR 24997, May 5, 2004; 70 FR 31374, June 1, 2005]

Unfortunately, on December 1, 2020, the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico collapsed, leaving deep pain for the scientific community in our country and worldwide. This coordinating entity was waiting for the future of the Observatory. On October 13, 2022, the National Science Foundation (NSF) determined not to rebuild the Arecibo radio telescope. For this reason, we recommend amending Part 97.205(h), eliminating that requirement when repeating frequencies are to be coordinated in the bands of radio amateurs on our island since they are not going to rebuild said radio telescope. We expect your quick reply.

Any questions can contact us or send us an email.

Sincerely;

Julio Díaz Santiago

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