

**EMERGING TECHNOLOGY COORDINATION COMMITTEE (ETCC)  
REPORT FOR SPECTRUM FORUM 5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2011**

The ETCC report this year continues to reflect the extensive delays with frequency clearances by the Primary Users of our shared bands. It should be noted that we have at least two Primary Users who impact on clearances in just about every secondary band. In 23 cms the main user affecting us is the CAA, with the MoD not only being involved in 23 cms but almost everywhere else.

Ofcom's Spectrum Licensing Centre continues to be understaffed especially with people who understand Amateur Radio matters and as a consequence all proposals, even those in Primary bands, have suffered considerable delays.

Some progress has been made following representations at the RSGB/Ofcom Spectrum Forum meetings. We are also following up ways to improve NoV processes in general and perhaps transfer some of the routine administrative duties to the RSGB.

At our last meeting, Ofcom undertook to re-submit outstanding proposals to the MoD and a full list was provided to them for this purpose. We await the outcome of this exercise. This list included outstanding ATV proposals in MoD shared bands. It should be noted that no new ATV repeater NoVs have been issued for at least the past two years neither have any changes been cleared in that period. Accepting that we are only a secondary service this does not mean that we should be prevented from operating indefinitely.

As others will report, the use of Amateur spectrum for the Olympics is still being progressed and we have worked closely with Murray G6JYB to produce a plan which it is hoped will avoid too much disruption to repeaters and Internet gateways. Feedback on the final amount of Amateur spectrum required is still awaited although it has been made clear that all frequency segments which are withdrawn will be returned when the Games are complete.

Progress in 23 cms was made at Sun City where a recommendation was made to adopt 5 high speed data frequencies at the top end of the band. It is hoped these will be acceptable to the Primary Users (mainly CAA).

We still await a revised full 23 cm bandplan which should assist in identifying those areas of spectrum which are most likely to cause problems to PU systems thus steering users to choose frequencies which have a much greater chance of success.

**John McCullagh GI4BWM**

**Chairman ETCC  
November 2011**