

IWG-5 Comments on Document IWG-5/66 (RCS draft proposal on active and passive sensors)

IWG-5 has tabled a Draft Proposal for the Work of the Conference from the NTIA offered under agenda item 1.12, IWG-5/066 (02.27.06). The proposal concerns modifications to Appendix 4 of the Radio Regulations to provide for data elements for active and passive sensors on board satellites to provide for , “analyzing the compatibility of these sensors with systems operating in other services.....and subsequent entry into the Master International Frequency Register (MIRF).” These sensors operate in the Earth Exploration Service (EESS).

After long consideration, IWG-5, at its meeting of 17 July, 2006, and as reflected in its minutes of the meeting, determined to oppose this proposal. It was noted that this proposal is related to the still un-reconciled FCC/NTIA proposals for agenda item 1.20. This agenda item concerns consideration of band pairs of EESS passive sensors and active satellite services. The NTIA proposal advocates mandatory Out of Band Emission limits on the active satellite services and the WAC/FCC proposal is opposed to such limits.

In summary it was the view of IWG-5 that agreement to the referenced proposal in advance of the resolution of the agenda item 1.20 would put the industry at considerable disadvantage. It is hoped that such resolution will take place soon.