**From:** Julian Sortland
**Sent:** Saturday, 16 April 2016 10:45 PM
**To:** spectrumreform spectrumreform@communications.gov.au

# Subject: Simplication of Amateur Licensing

Dear Madam / Sir,

An important reformation would be the simplification of Amateur Licencing.

Various other nations (including our "Five Eyes" defence partners UK, USA, NZ, and Canada) issue licences without a fee, as they see that the cost of handling and at times refunding funds, compared to the funds collected as inefficient. Further, the fees are a barrier for students, pensioners, benefit recipients, and others with a low income.

Other nations also issue licences for extended periods, from 10 years to life.

Another efficiency in the US system, is that the various volunteer examiner co-ordinators (such as, but not only, the ARRL VEC) enter the data from the successful applicants' form into the FCC's Universal Licensing System. This results in relatively rapid licensing, including upgrades, without government staff being involved. During the major Dayton Hamvention, the Laurel VEC have their VEC function on-site, meaning that licencee data is entered into the ULS on-site, and licences and upgrades are issued within minutes, and with no test fee. Even if the WIA were not to be allowed to enter the data directly into the Radcom database, removing the slowing mail system from the process where possible would be a step forward.

Thanks,
Julian Sortland VK2YJS / AG6LE.

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