

I am a certified electronics technician and an amateur radio operator. The comments currently submitted in Docket No. 98-153 ignore the potential impacts of Ultra-Wideband Transmission Systems on RADIO ASTRONOMY research. The Ultra-Wideband transmissions can increase the "noise floor" of radio emissions resulting in a masking of radio astronomy weak-signal sources. This masking of RADIO ASTRONOMY by Ultra-Wideband Transmission would inhibit basic discoveries in astronomy, astrophysics, physics, and the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI).

In order to prevent this negative impact to RADIO ASTRONOMY, the FCC should invite the radio astronomy community and the National Academy of Sciences to participate in laboratory experiments to determine the interference potential of UWB transmissions and the regulatory steps required to protect RADIO ASTRONOMY from UWB operation. No rules allowing the operation of UWB transmission should be issued until radio astronomers (both professional and amateur) are allowed to participate in laboratory studies of the impact of Ultra-Wideband Transmission on radio astronomy research.

Thank you for your attention to the needs of radio astronomy.

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