

Raising CBRS Power Levels and Out of Band Emissions Limits Would Hurt Consumers and National Security



Citizens Broadband Radio Service (CBRS) is a U.S.-created technology that allows national security systems and commercial users to share the same spectrum bands, getting the most out of a scarce resource. CBRS is a win-win for our country and consumers.

An Updated Approach to Meet Spectrum Needs

The modern, innovative CBRS approach implemented by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has been an unmitigated success. The FCC rejected calls for higher power levels, specifically intending the CBRS band's low-power approach and carefully calibrated out of band emissions to enable accessible, local connectivity to fuel everything from 5G broadband to universities, farms, ports and airports, and manufacturing facilities. This advantage provides users a more flexible alternative to the Big Three carriers' high-power service.

Protect Consumer Choice, Commercial Autonomy, & National Security

Increasing power levels and out of band emissions, as some carriers favor, would fundamentally change the nature of the CBRS band, threatening its success in serving America's wireless capacity needs.



Raising Power Levels and Out of Band Emissions Could Limit Consumer Choice

The services and equipment many rural carriers have deployed using CBRS are not designed with high-power operational capability or to withstand the interference from others transmitting high-power signals with increased out of band emissions limits. The current lower power sharing framework gives consumers access to more innovative technologies and increases economic development, particularly in rural areas.



Raising Power Levels and Out of Band Emissions Jeopardizes National Security

This would potentially interfere with missile defense and coastal radar systems sharing those bands. Higher power levels would also force the Department of Defense to increase the size of its protection areas, leading to less commercial use of the CBRS spectrum bands.



Raising Power Levels and Out of Band Emissions Risks Business Autonomy and Innovation

CBRS provides commercial and enterprise users with the freedom to construct their own wireless networks. This helps local economies thrive without having to wait on traditional wireless carriers to build network infrastructure to meet their business needs.