

Additional comments:

NATS welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges) Amendment Regulations 2013, which we understand to be further amending the 2011 Wireless Telegraphy (Licence Charges) Regulations as first amended by the 2012 Amendment Regulations.

Question 1: We would welcome any comments on the drafting of the Proposed Regulations, and in particular whether they give effect to what Ofcom intends (as outlined in this document).:

1) NATS notes that no changes to the fee caps for the Aeronautical Station (Area Control) licence class have been addressed in either the Notice or the draft amendment contained in Annex 6. This doesn't appear to be in line with earlier Ofcom proposals and Statements in relation to the fees for this licence class.

2) The Licence Charges (Amendment) Regulations 2012 were changed between the initial consultation and their final publication in line with sections 3.27 & 3.28 of the Statement dated 13th April 2012. We understand that this was so that the fee bases for both 8.33 kHz and 25 kHz spacing would be specified in the Schedule 2 entries for the Aeronautical licence classes where bespoke fees apply and also to clarify that the final fee payable in each class would be rounded down to the nearest £50 "in order to reduce administrative complexity". NATS notes that for these clarifications were not introduced in the entries for the Aeronautical Station (Aerodrome Surface and OPC) and (Offshore) classes in the published 2012 Regulations - we assume as those classes are subject to generic AIP based, non-bespoke fees.

NATS suggests that for the purposes of clarity and consistency, consideration be given to introducing this dual spacing fee formulation into the Regulations for the Aeronautical Station (Aerodrome Surface and OPC) and (Offshore) classes; furthermore NATS also suggests that consideration be given to applying the downward rounding to the 8.33 kHz fee in these two classes. NATS appreciates that this latter point perhaps wasn't directly addressed during earlier consultations but for reasons of consistency with the stated overall intention to reduce administrative complexity in the fee levels it appears to us to be a reasonable approach.

3) Table 1 on page 5 of the Notice indicates that the 2013/14 fee cap for an 8.33 kHz spacing Aeronautical Station (Aeronautical Broadcast) licence should be £650 rather than the £600 that is quoted in the draft Amendment.

4) As an editorial comment, the abbreviation "ENSS" in the new Satellite entry in Schedule 2 should be "GNSS".