VLA-VLBA Interference Protection Memo #35

VLA Site-Generated RFI Control Plan

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Abstract

EVLA RF emissions limits and site building architectural shielding are summarized. Tables of existing or potential site-based RF emitters, and EVLA module and rack shielding are presented. The emissions limits are created from EVLA Memo #106 and Interference Protection Memos 34, the architectural shielding values are estimated from VLA-VLBA Interference Protection Memos 29 and 32, and the emissions and shielding data from documented IPG test data.

1 INTRODUCTION

Radio frequency interference (RFI) generated by electronic devices located at the VLA site has the potential to significantly disrupt current VLA, and future EVLA and LWDA observations. Measures have been in place for over a decade to reduce the effects of emissions from site-based 2-way radios and personal computers via notifications and voluntary, equipment time-of-use limitations by site personnel. However, as digital electronic equipment at the VLA site has proliferated, and new EVLA higher-sensitivity and wider bandwidth observing programs prepare to go on-line, additional RFI control and mitigation measures are now necessary.

2 PURPOSE

The purpose of this VLA Site Generated RFI Control Plan is to:

- 1) Re-document the detrimental thresholds, and establish RF emission zone limits around the VLA site.
- 2) Inventory suspected RFI generating equipment currently installed at the VLA site,
- 3) Describe emissions tests performed or planned for existing equipment,
- 4) Describe mitigation measures taken or planned for existing equipment,
- 5) Establish new equipment screening procedures, as well as new equipment limitation guidelines.

3 STATUS

As of the time of the writing of this report (December, 2006), a relatively small number of commercial electronic equipment items, and a large number of EVLA RF and digital modules have been RF emissions tested. In addition, most of the proposed rack and module hardware has been tested in order to quantify shielding effectiveness. Most of these emissions and shielding tests were performed in the EVLA/ALMA shielded chamber, which is located in the north-east corner of the VLA site warehouse. The tests have been performed over the 4 years since the chamber was assembled, by seven different Cooperative Exchange students, as supervised by three different electrical engineers. As a result of this diversity of testers, test procedures were not uniformly executed, and test results are not uniformly documented. Where possible, the original shielding and emissions data has been re-analyzed according to the current conventions before inclusion in this report.

4 REQUIREMENTS

The received power flux density (PFD) limitations for RF emissions have been detailed in-general for radio astronomy observing by A.R. Thompson of NRAO¹, and lately for the EVLA by Rick Perley². The detrimental limits for each observing band follow the 10% of Tsys variation criterion established by Thompson, and incorporated into the ITU R-RA.769 recommendation, and Perley's EVLA series memos 46, 104, and 106. The limits proposed in EVLA Memo #106 attempt to take into account the attenuation provided by fringe rotation when the observing instrument is an interferometer array, observing a source greater than 5 degrees away from the celestial North Pole³. Perley's VLA-VLBA Interference memo #34 ("Notes on RFI Management") expands on the detrimental limits of EVLA Memo #106 by defining the detrimental limits in terms of power units (Watts) as captured by an EVLA antenna, per an astronomically significant bandwidth, from an RFI source at a reference distance of 1 m. Table 1, below, which was constructed from equation (9) of EVLA memo #106, and equation (7) of Interference memo #34, details the detrimental power limits for the center of each of the proposed EVLA receiving bands, in a bandwidth (BW) determined by the spectral line width of an astronomical source corresponding to a velocity width of 3 Km/sec. The detrimental power, maximum emission levels for an RFI source at any other distance may be easily calculated by adding the appropriate 20 log10(separation distance) flux spreading factor to the detrimental power limit. From the same interference memo, equation (8) may be used to determine the additional shielding required to reduce emissions from an excessively-strong source to below the detrimental limits at the nearest EVLA antenna.

The Tsys values used for the two, sub-GHz bands are taken from the VLA Observational Status Summary, Table 4⁴. For the bands above 1 GHz, the Tsys is taken from the EVLA Project Book⁵, chapter 5, Table 5-1.

Table 1: EVLA Detrimental levels Used (Within the BW width listed in column 2)

Freq (GHz)	BW (KHz)	Tsys (K)	PFD-detrimental (W/m^2) @ EVLA antenna	dBPFD-detrimental (dBW/m^2) @ EVLA antenna	P-detrimental (EIRP max) (dBW) @ RFI source @ 1 m [†]
0.0738	0.738	1000	2.81363E-20	-196	-184
0.328	3.28	150	3.70519E-19	-184	-173
1.5	15	26	6.1425E-18	-172	-161
3	30	26	4.914E-17	-163	-152
6	60	26	3.9312E-16	-154	-143
10	100	30	2.1E-15	-147	-136
15	150	37	8.74125E-15	-141	-130
23	230	59	5.02497E-14	-133	-122
34	340	53	1.45818E-13	-128	-117
45	450	74	4.72028E-13	-123	-112

 $^{^\}dagger$ Assuming isotropic emission ($G_{e,dBi},\,G_{r,dBi}=0$) and no shielding ($S_{dB}=0$). From eq (9) of VLA/VLBA Interference Memo #34, "Notes on RFI Management": $P_e < -180.6 + 20 \; Log10(r_m) + 30 Log10(v_G) + 10 \; Log10(T_{sys)} - G_{e,dBi} - G_{r,dBi} + S_{dB} \; (dBW),$ With r_m being the distance between the emitter and antenna in meters, v_G being the frequency in GHz,

and T_{svs} the temperature in K.

¹ IEEE Trans. Ant. Prop., AP-30, 450-456, 1982.

² EVLA series memos 46, 104, and 106.

³ EVLA series memo #106, section 5.

⁴ http://www.vla.nrao.edu/astro/guides/vlas/current.

⁵ http://www.aoc.nrao.edu/evla/pbook.shtml.

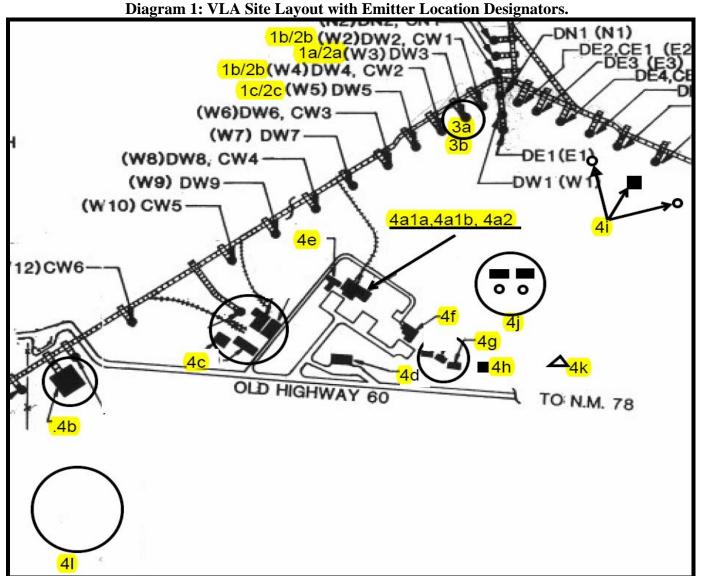
5 EMITTER LOCATIONS/ SITE LAYOUT

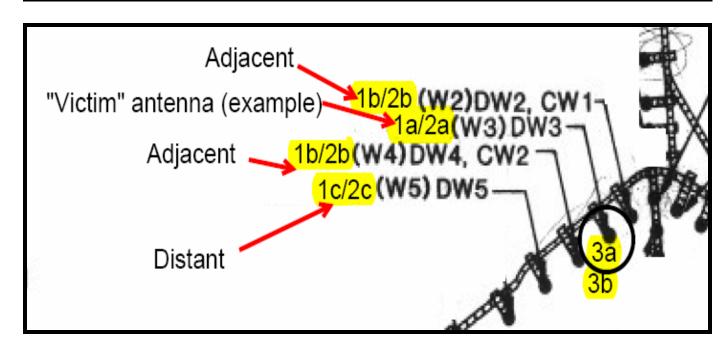
The RFI-generating equipment source locations can be broken down into the following broad categories, as itemized in List 1, and shown on the site layout (Diagram 1) below.

List 1: RF Emitter Location Designators.

- 1) Antenna vertex room
- 1a) Same antenna vertex room
- 1b) Adjacent antenna vertex rooms (adjacent pads, D configuration)
- 1c) Distant antenna vertex rooms (> 1 pad, or 40m away⁶)
- 2) Antenna Pedestal room
- 2a) Same antenna pedestal room
- 2b) Adjacent antenna pedestal rooms
- 2c) Distant antenna pedestal rooms (> 1 pad, or 40m away⁶)
- 3) Site grounds
- 3a) Immediate proximity to antennas (distance ≤ 40 m away⁶)
- 3b) Distant outdoor areas (distance > 40m away⁶)
- 4) Site buildings
- 4a) Control Building (CB)
- 4a1) Shielded CB areas
 - 4a1a Operations control room
 - 4a1b VLA Correlator room
 - 4a1c EVLA Correlator room
- 4a2) Unshielded areas (all other CB areas)
- 4b) AAB (including attached buildings, paint shop, and trailers.
- 4c) Tech Services building cluster (including MOS, Auto, Electrical, Carpentry, Warehouses)
- 4d) Visitor's Center
- 4e) SLOB building/FO Lab
- 4f) Cafeteria
- 4g) VSQ buildings
- 4h) RF-EMS shelter
- 4i) API shelter and antennas
- 4j) ATF site trailers and antennas
- 4k) ATF source tower
- 4l) LWDA site shelter and antennas

⁶ Minimum VLA pad-to-pad distance, from "VLA Site – WYE Layout" drawing, B219001.





6 PROPAGATION LOSSES AND SHIELDING FACTORS

Each location can have a propagation factor assigned to it according to the following key parameters:

6-1 FLUX SPREADING LOSSES

The strength of the electro-magnetic field flux dissipates proportionally to the expanding surface area of a sphere centered on the source, by a factor proportional to $1/(distance^2)$. Thus the PFD from a source with an effective Isotropic Radiated Power (EIRP) in the direction of the receiving antenna is equal to the pfd @ r = 1m, divided by the distance² factor listed above. The table 2, following, summarizes the distances used for calculating the flux spreading "loss" assumptions used in subsequent analysis.

6-2 ARCHITECTURAL SHIELDING LOSSES

The VLA Operations room in the Control Building was originally constructed with wire-mesh shielding installed in the walls, windows, ceiling, and floor. An attempt at characterizing the effective shielding of the room was made by Clint Janes in the mid 1990s, and yielded a figure of around 30 dB'—15 dB will be used for Interference Protection Group (IPG) analysis, as a conservative figure based on the results of C. S. Patcheck/IPG tests of 2002⁸. The VLA correlator room in the CB was originally designed to show greater than 90 dB of shielding to 1 GHz⁹. Age, use, and penetrations have deteriorated the shielding effectiveness of this room—50 dB will be used for IPG analysis, as estimated from the results of C. S. Patcheck/IPG tests of 2002¹⁰. The EVLA correlator room in the CB was originally designed to show greater than 100 dB of shielding to 10 GHz¹¹. Post installation penetrations have deteriorated the shielding effectiveness of this room to less than 80 dB, as estimated from tests of April, 2006¹². Subsequent improvements to the connector bulkhead should have improved this weak-point—90 dB will be used for IPG analysis. Other VLA site buildings (including the non-shielded areas of the CB) are constructed of various materials, such as corrugated steel, brick, press-board and glass, each yielding different, but not substantial shielding values—5 dB will be used for IPG analysis, by conservative estimate from the results of C. S. Patcheck/IPG tests of 2002¹³. The ALMA site trailers are of corrugated steel, and have wire-mesh shielding added to the windows. The minimal shielding value of the original construction (~ 10 dB, at best¹⁴), was improved later to a value of 30 dB in L-band¹⁵—20 dB will be used for IPG analysis based on these results. Tests by Philstrom and Mertely in August 2006 showed the shielding of the LWA shelter to be in the 30 dB range from VHF to C-band¹⁶--the RF-EMS and API shelters are assumed to have similar shielding. The table 2, following, summarizes the architectural shielding assumptions used in subsequent analysis.

⁷ Draft "EVLA Overall RFI Hardware Plan", Appendix D, Table 2. Email dated 20020520. Clint Janes.

⁸ VLA-VLBA Interference Protection Memo #32, pg 27

⁹ By analogy with the EVLA correlator room, OEM default specification—See ***

¹⁰ VLA-VLBA Interference Protection Memo #32, pg 23

¹¹ USC Test Plan, "3.0 Test Specification Limits".

¹² "EVLA Shielded Room re-test report", Email dated 20060406. D. Mertely

¹³ VLA-VLBA Interference Protection Memo #32, pg 24, 25

¹⁴ VLA-VLBA Interference Protection Memo #32, pg 27

¹⁵ VLA-VLBA Interference Protection Memo #29, pg 1

¹⁶ "LWDA Equipment shelter shielding", Attached spreadsheet, Position 1 results. Email dated 20060817. Dan Mertely

Table 2: VLA Site Flux Spreading Losses and Architectural Shielding Assumptions used.

BUILDING/AREA	LOCATION	DISTANCE	ARC'TL	TOTAL
	DESIGNATOR	USED	SHIELDING	"LOSSES"
	(LD)	(m)	USED	USED
	(FROM LIST 1)		(dB)	(dB)
ANT V-ROOM TO SAME ANT	1a	N/A	UNKNOWN	(VARIES) ¹⁷
ANT V-ROOM TO ADJ ANT	1b	40	30^{18}	62
ANT V-ROOM TO DIST ANT	1c	80	30^{18}	68
ANT P-ROOM TO SAME ANT	2a	N/A	UNKNOWN	TBD
ANT P-ROOM TO ADJ ANT	2b	N/A	UNKNOWN	TBD
ANT P-ROOM TO DIST ANT	2c	N/A	UNKNOWN	TBD
SITE GROUNDS, < 40m (PROX)	3a	20	0	26
SITE GROUNDS, > 40m (DIST)	3b	(VARIES)	0	(VARIES)
CB, OPS ROOM	4a1a	200	15	61
CB, VLA CORR ROOM	4a1b	200	50	96
CB, EVLA CORR ROOM	4a1c	200	90	136
OTHER VLA SITE BLDGS	4a2, 4b-4g	160-300	5	49
RF-EMS SHELTER	4h	450	30	83
API SHELTER	4i	100	30	70
ALMA TRAILERS	4j	300	20	70
ALMA TOWER	4k	450	0	53
LWDA SHELTER	41	400	30	82

Table 3: EIRPmax, unshielded (dBW) allowed for each location by EVLA frequency band.

1a: using Ridgeway measured losses from vertex room to FE input.

All others: using total losses from Table 2, and det EIRP limits from Table 1, Column 6.

	Freq (GHz)	0.0738	0.328	1.5	3	6	10	15	23	34	45
Loc Desig	(GIIZ)										
1a		-114	-103	-78	-69	-57	-61	-53	-17	-12	-2
1b		-122	-111	-99	-90	-81	-74	-68	-60	-55	-50
1c		-116	-105	-93	-84	-75	-68	-62	-54	-49	-44
2a		TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
2b	·	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
2c		TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
3a		-152	-141	-129	-120	-111	-104	-98	-90	-85	-80
3b		VAR	VAR	VAR	VAR	VAR	VAR	VAR	VAR	VAR	VAR
4a1a		-123	-112	-100	-91	-82	-75	-69	-61	-56	-51
4a1b		-88	-77	-65	-56	-47	-40	-34	-26	-21	-16
4a1c		-48	-37	-25	16	-07	0	+06	+14	+19	+24
4a2, 4b-4g		-135	-124	-112	-103	-94	-87	-81	-73	-68	-63
4h		-116	-105	-93	-84	-75	-68	-62	-54	-49	-44
4i	·	-114	-103	-91	-82	-73	-66	-60	-52	-47	-42
4j	·	-115	-104	-92	-83	-74	-66	-60	-52	-48	-43
4k		-131	-120	-108	-99	-90	-83	-77	-69	-64	-59
41		-102	-91	-79	-70	-61	-54	-48	-40	-35	-30

7 INSTALLED SOURCES

List 2, following, is a sample of a working document which shall list existing and potential VLA site based RF emitters, and assign a type designator to each. Table 3, following, is a sample of a working document which shall document for each emitter type, the equipment model number, locations(s), emissions tests performed, measured EIRP, required shielding, and mitigation measures taken for each

¹⁷ Table 1, "Suppression of Self-Generated RFI Emissions for the EVLA", R. Ridgeway, RFI2004, Penticton, Canada.

¹⁸ EVLA Memo #78, R. Ridgeway, Pg 2.

installation. The working document which includes List 2 and Table 3 shall be maintained by the Interference Protection Office in a group-accessible location on a NRAO server¹⁹.

List 2: RF Emitter designators (sample).

```
a) COMMERCIALLY PURCHASED EQUIPMENT
a1) PC EQUIPMENT
 a1a) DESK TOP PCs
 alb) LAP TOP PCs
 alc) PDAS
a2) MONITORS/"DUMB" TERMINALS
 a2a) CRT
 a2b) LCD
 a2c) PLASMA
a3) PRINTERS
a4) LAN EQUIPMENT
 a4a) MEDIA CONVERTERS
 a4b) HUBS
 a4c) ROUTERS
 a4d) SWITCHES
 a4e) WIRELESS NETWORKS
a5) TEST EQUIPMENT
 a5a) SIGNAL GENERATORS
 a5b) SPECTRUM ANALYZERS
 a5c) OSCILLOSCOPES
 a5d) VOLT-OHM METERS
a6) SITE RADIOS
 a6a) VHF
 a6b) UHF
 a6c) FRS
 a6d) CB
a7) CELL PHONES
 a7a) NRAO
 a7b) PRIVATE
a8) CORDLESS PHONES
 a8a) NRAO
 a8b) PRIVATE
a9) POWER SUPPLIES
 a9a) ON-ANTENNA
  a9a1 LINEAR
  a9a2 SWITCHING
 a9b) BUILDING
  a9b1) LINEAR
  a9b2) SWITCHING
a10) WELDERS
a11) VEHICLES
 alla) GASOLINE
 alla) DIESEL
a12) AM/FM RADIOS
a13) TELEVISION MONITORS
a14) GPS RECEIVERS
a15) FLORESCENT LIGHTING
a16) APPLIANCES
 a16a) OPERATOR'S KITCHEN
  a16a1) OVENS
  a16a2) TOASTERS
  a16a3) COFFEE POTS
  a16a4) REFRIGERATOR/FREEZERS
 a16b) GENERAL KITCHEN
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 $^{^{19}\} http://www.aoc.nrao.edu/evla//techdocs/RFI/chamber-tests/EVLA-testing-status[yyyymmdd].doc.$

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a16b1) OVENS
  a16b2) TOASTERS
  a16b3) COFFEE POTS
  a16b4) REFRIGERATOR/FREEZERS
 a16c) PERSONAL
  a16c1) OVENS
  a16c2) TOASTERS
  a16c3) COFFEE POTS
  a16c4) REFRIGERATOR/FREEZERS
  a16d5) SPACE HEATERS
a17) DIGITAL CAMERAS
 a17a) NRAO
 a17b) VISITORS
a18) AUTOMOBILE REMOTE CONTROLS
a19) TELEPHONES (WIRED)
 a19a) ANALOG
 a19b) DIGITAL
b) NRAO DESIGNED EQUIPMENT
b1) ANTENNA
 bla) VLA
  b1a1) FRONT END RECEIVERS
   b1a1a) F201 4m
   b1a1b) F202 90cm
   b1a1c) F103 20cm
   blald) A-rack 6cm/2cm
   bla1e) F106 4cm
   b1a1f) F109 1cm
   b1a1g) F110 6mm
  b1a2) LO MODULES
   b1a2a) L1 VCXO
   b1a2b) L2 HARMONIC GENERATOR
   b1a2c) L3 LO TRANSMITTER
   b1a2d) L4 ANTENNA LO RECEIVER
   b1a2e) L6 SYNTHESIZER
   b1a2f) L7 FRINGE GENERATOR
   b1a2g) L8 TIMING GENERATOR
   b1a2h) F3 MICROWAVE LO
  b1a3) CONVERTER MODULES
   b1a3a) F11 4P UPCONVERTER
   b1a3b) F2 L BAND UPCONVERTER
   b1a3c) F12 XO DOWNCONVERTER
   b1a3d) F4 DOWNCONVERTER
   b1a3e) F8 IF OFFSET
   b1a3f) T2 IF COMBINER
   bla3g) T1 MODEM
  b1a4) MONITOR AND CONTROL MODULES
   b1a4a) F14 FRONT END CONTROL
   b1a4b) L5 LO CONTROL
   b1a4c) F5 A-RACK MONITOR AND CONTROL
   bla4d) M1 DATA SET
   bla4e) M2 DATA TAP
   b1a4f) M3 CENTRAL BUFFER
   b1a4g) M4 ANTENNA BUFFER
   b1a4h) M5 COMMAND SIMULATOR
  b1a5) POWER SUPPLIES
   b1a5a) LINEAR
   b1a5b) SWITCHING
 b1b) EVLA
  b1b1) FRONT END RECEIVERS
   b1b1a) F201 4m
   b1b1b) F202 90cm
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b1b1c) F303 20cm

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b1b1d) F304 13cm
  b1b1e) F305 6cm
  b1b1f) F106 4cm
  b1b1g) F109 1cm
  b1b1h) F110 6mm
 b1b2) LO MODULES
  b1b2a) L304 LO/REF RECEIVER
  b1b2b) L305 REFERENCE GENERATOR AND DISTRIBUTION
  b1b2c) L300 REFERENCE GENERATOR
  b1b2d) L301 SYNTHESIZER
  b1b2e) L302 SYNTHESIZER
 b1b3) CONVERTER MODULES
  b1b3a) T301 4P CONVERTER
  b1b3b) T302 LSC CONVERTER
  b1b3c) T303 UX CONVERTER
  b1b3d) T304 DOWN CONVERTER
  b1b3e) D30X DTS
 b1b4) MONITOR AND CONTROL MODULES
  b1b4a) F14 TRANSITION FRONT END CONTROL
  b1b4b) F320 TRANSITION FRONT END CONTROL
  b1b4c) F317 FRONT END CONTROL
  b1b4d) T305 DOWNCONVERTER CONTROL
 b1b5) POWER SUPPLIES
  b1b5a) LINEAR
  b1b5b) SWITCHING
b2) SITE BUILDINGS
b2a) VLA
 b2a1) LO MODULES
  b2a1a) T2 IF COMBINER
  b2a1b) T1 MODEM
 b2a2) MONITOR AND CONTROL MODULES
  b2a2a) M1 DATA SET
  b2a2b) M2 DATA TAP
  b2a2c) M3 CENTRAL BUFFER
  b2a2d) M4 ANTENNA BUFFER
  b2a2e) M5 COMMAND SIMULATOR
 b2a3) MARK 5 RECORDERS
 b2a4) POWER SUPPLIES
  b2a4a) LINEAR
  b2a4a) SWITCHING
 b2a5) CUSTOM TEST EQUIPMENT
 b2b) EVLA
 b2b1) LO MODULES
  b2b1a) L350 REFERENCE GENERATOR AND DISTRIBUTION
  b2b1b) L351 MASTER OFFSET GENERATOR
  b2b1c) L354 LO DRIVER
  b2b1d) L355 DIGITAL TIMING DISTRIBUTOR
  b2b1e) L353 LO TRANSMITTER SYSTEM
  b2b2) CONVERTER MODULES
  b2b2a) T301 4P CONVERTER
  b2b2b) T302 LSC CONVERTER
  b2b2c) T303 UX CONVERTER
  b2b2d) T304 DOWN CONVERTER
  b2b2e) D30X DTS
 b2b3) MONITOR AND CONTROL MODULES
  b2b3a) M350 UTILITY MODULE
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b2b4) POWER SUPPLIES b2b4a) LINEAR b2b4b) SWITCHING

b2B5) CUSTOM TEST EQUIPMENT

Table 3: RF Emitter Inventory (sample).

EMITTER DESIGNATOR	MODEL#	LOC(S)	TEST(S) PERFORMED	MAX EIRP 0-1/1-20 GHz	PROP LOSS TOTA L	RQD AD'NL SHIELDING 0-1/1-20 GHz	MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS
(List 3, above)		(List 1, above)		(dBW/RBW)	(dB)	(dB)	
ala	Dell Optiplex PC model # GX280	4a1a 4a1b 4a1c 4a2 4b 4c 4d 4e 4f 4h 4i 4j	emissions PC, mouse	-80/-90	72 107 147 60-65 60-65 60-65 60-65 60-65 81 80	32/10 none/none none/none 44/22 44/22 44/22 44/22 44/22 44/22 23/1 24/2	
a2a	Gateway 17" CRT monitor model # VX900	41 4a1a 4a1b 4a1c 4a2 4b 4c 4d 4e 4f 4h 4i 4j 4l	emissions PC, mouse, CRT	-65/-77	93 72 107 147 60-65 60-65 60-65 60-65 60-65 81 80 93	11/none 47/23 12/none none/none 59/35 59/35 59/35 59/35 59/35 59/35 59/35 38/14 39/15 26/2	
a2b	Dell flatsern monitor model # E156FP	4a1a 4a1b 4a1c 4a2 4b 4c 4d 4e 4f 4h	emissions PC, mouse, LCD	-54/-83	72 107 147 60-65 60-65 60-65 60-65 60-65 60-65	58 23/none none/none 70/29 70/29 70/29 70/29 70/29 70/29 70/29	

		4i 4j 4l			81 80 93	49/8 50/9 37/none	
a2b	LI LCD flat screen TV Model # 42LC2D	4d	emissions PC, mouse, LCD	-73/-83	60-65	51/29	

3 Equipment Screening Guidelines

With the proliferation of new RF and digital equipment being purchased and designed for use at the VLA site, it is critical that RF emissions screening guidelines be established for both commercially-purchased equipment, as well as NRAO designed modules or devices. These screening guidelines will be based on the likelihood that a device will exceed the EVLA detrimental thresholds at the nearest antenna, when installed at the anticipated VLA site "emitter location(s)" of List1/Diagram 1, above. The likelihood of a class of device exceeding the EVLA detrimental thresholds will be determined by the results of prior "emitter class" testing, and/or the engineering judgment of the Interference Protection Office engineering staff.

Equipment believed to have the greatest risk to EVLA scientific observing will be 100% screened—all such devices will be required to undergo RF emissions screening before they will be allowed to be installed at the VLA site. If emissions testing of such equipment indicates that the device will radiate above the EVLA detrimental thresholds from its anticipated installation point, the equipment will be shielded to below the threshold, or be tagged for turn-off during scientific observations.

Equipment already on-site and falling within the category of devices targeted for 100% screening will be emissions tested and tagged as such over the next year. Equipment found to exceed the EVLA detrimental levels detailed in EVLA memo #106 will be shielded to an emissions level below the detrimental levels, or will be tagged for turn-off during scientific observations.

Equipment of lower risk will be screened by "class". If the class designation of a new equipment item indicates the likelihood of radiated emissions above the EVLA detrimental levels, the equipment will be shielded to an emissions level below the detrimental levels, or will be tagged for turn-off during scientific observations. If design or performance changes suggest a significant change in radiated power from that recorded during previous emissions tests of devices in a class, a new emissions test will be performed on a representative new equipment model in that class. Future equipment in that class will be required to be shielded to the level determined by the most recent RF emissions test.

The following is the equipment "class" list, listed in order of the likelihood of generating harmful RFI, and identified by the equipment class designator given in List 2, above:

List 3: Equipment Screening Priority.

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1. Intentional radiators to be 100% screened:
a) COMMERCIALLY PURCHASED EQUIPMENT
a6) SITE RADIOS
a6a) VHF
a6b) UHF
a6c) FRS
a6d) CB
a7) CELL PHONES
a7a) NRAO
a7b) PRIVATE
a8) CORDLESS PHONES
a8a) NRAO
a8b) PRIVATE
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2. Un-intentional radiators to be 100% screened:

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b) NRAO DESIGNED EQUIPMENT
b1) ANTENNA
b1a) VLA
b1a2) LO MODULES
b1a2e) L6 SYNTHESIZER
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b1a2h) F3 MICROWAVE LO b1a3) CONVERTER MODULES b1a3b) F2 L BAND UPCONVERTER b1a3c) F12 XQ DOWNCONVERTER

b1b) EVLA

b1b2) LO MODULES

b1b2c) L300 REFERENCE GENERATOR

b1b2d) L301 SYNTHESIZER

b1b2e) L302 SYNTHESIZER

b1b3) CONVERTER MODULES b1b3a) T301 4P CONVERTER

b1b3b) T302 LSC CONVERTER

b1b3c) T303 UX CONVERTER

b1b3d) T304 DOWN CONVERTER

b1b3e) D30X DTS

3. Un-intentional radiators to be sampled by class:

All equipment in List 2 not listed in "1. Intentional radiators" or "2. Un-intentional radiators", above.

The emissions testing system currently used in the EVLA/ALMA reverberation chamber is unable to test to the EVLA Detrimental levels of EVLA memo #106 across all proposed EVLA receiving bands²⁰. As a result, all unintentional radiators identified for emissions testing will be tested with shielding covers removed or open. The shielding effectiveness of the total, in situ equipment shielding (module, bin, rack, and architectural) shall be tested separately. Shielding values so measured shall be deducted from the EIRP values calculated from the equipment emissions testing, before calculation of the PFD of the equipment emissions at the nearest antenna and comparison with the detrimental PFD levels. Emissions testing will be performed in accordance with the document, "EVLA/ALMA Reverberation Chamber Emissions Testing Procedure', Shielding effectiveness testing will be performed in accordance with the document, "Reverberation Chambers"²².

²⁰ As seen in Figure 10, "verizon-VX7000-emissions-test-results1.doc", Email dated 20060406, D. Mertely, for example.

²¹ http://www.aoc.nrao.edu/evla//techdocs/RFI/chamber-tests/test-procedures/emissions-test-proc1.doc

²² http://www.aoc.nrao.edu/evla//techdocs/RFI/chamber-tests/test-procedures/reverb.pdf, Section 4.3, pg 6.