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NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY
Green Bank, WV

GREEN BANK INTERFERENCE OFFICE MEMO #1

Title: Information and services available from the Interference Office,
National Radio Astronomy Observatory, Green Bank, West Virginia

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NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY
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Information and Services Available from the Interference Office, NRAO, Green Bank, WV

Wesley A. Sizemore

Background

Several years ago, the Interference Office published periodic RFI reports dealing with interference issues at Green Bank, WV. I am reinstating these reports and hope to expand them in scope to include issues of interest not only to Green Bank but to the Radio Astronomy community in general. Due to the long time between the last "Green Bank RFI Report" and this one, I have decided to start a new numbered series titled "Green Bank Interference Office Memo #__". These reports will be available in all NRAO libraries, at the telescopes, and online through the Xmosaic documentation system.

Responsibilities of the Interference Office

The primary responsibility of the Interference Office is the administration of the National Radio Quiet Zone (NRQZ). This involves the evaluation of all applications for new or modification of existing fixed radio transmitters located in the NRQZ for interference potential and working with the applicant to resolve any problems. Because the NRQZ is unique to Green Bank, I will minimize the discussion in this memo series of issues related solely to the NRQZ.

The Interference Office is also responsible for the identification and correction of radio frequency interference to the telescopes at Green Bank. In order to fulfil this requirement, an RFI monitoring station is operated and will be the subject of a future memo. Also, various reference material on RFI are maintained.

Information available from the Interference Office

1. Current table of frequency allocations which includes international and national (Government and non-Government) frequency allocations.
2. Current list of all unclassified Government and non-Government fixed radio transmitters located inside the NRQZ.
3. Information on potential sources of interference other than fixed transmitters in the NRQZ such as satellite and aircraft transmitters.
4. Green Bank RFI reports on various subjects and other RFI reference material.

Services available from the Interference Office

1. Identification and correction (if possible) of locally generated interference such as power line "noise", faulty TV signal preamplifiers, etc.
2. Monitoring of requested frequency bands between 100 and 1500 MHz.
3. Limited identification of satellite interference. I do not have frequency information on all satellites but do maintain current orbital elements for most satellites and recently acquired the ability to track satellites with the RFI monitoring station.