

SUG Minutes – 10 Oct 2016

In attendance

Jim B, Nathan, Dick, Whit, Wes, Jim T, Mark, Chuck, Jim S, Dave

Station Reports – **New Info in RED**

Tom –

Dick – Nothing new.

Whit – Pad landscaped for the LWA antenna at Cohoe. De-snarling the LPDA will be a spring project.

Nathan – Making observations of ionospheric scintillation using Cas A and observing propagation TP's.

Jim B – Finishing up the receiver room. The FSX-2 is online on the Jove array and the FSX-8S is online on the LWA array. Next week the LWA will be de-built and re-built with adjustable dangle angle arms. Jove receivers not online yet.

Wes – Still with the line noise. Worse after the hurricane, if anything.

Chuck – Putting in a ground system and junction box at the farmhouse porch.

Francisco –

Andy –

Dave – Nothing new.

Discussion – New Info in RED

HEC grant

Chuck mentioned that money is starting to flow from the HEC grant to get some of the SUG-related hardware underway.

Chuck also mentioned that the HEC team is working on generating assessment documents.

Shing mentioned that he has received the system proposal and budget prepared by Dick and Dave and will take a little time to digest. All are in agreement that getting moving on the hardware improvements should happen sooner rather than later. Chuck indicated that the only hurdle before issuing purchase orders for spectrographs and antennas is to find out how Dick and Dave shall be paid from MTSU, which is basically an administrative detail. Dave has the parts on hand for 16 TFD elements and will commence fabrication; however, he will not obtain any coax cable until he has firm orders for it.

Shing mentioned that looking for other sources of funding, especially for the addition of new stations in the future, is an important thing to do now – along with looking for additional station sites and personnel.

Shing also mentioned that he has been in contact with a person at UA and NJIT, both of whom may be willing to set up stations to observe the eclipse.

FCC Noise Floor

Dave has fabbed up a response to the FCC's Inquiry. Dave will make a few minor mods at suggestions from Dick, Chuck, and Jim Sky, and return to the group with an updated version.

Dave has sent around a note from Whit about the FCC's current Technical Inquiry about the condition of the noise floor. Dick also sent around a slide outlining what the FCC is looking for. The FCC desired replies in August, but has extended the dead line to Oct 21st since it has received no replies from what it considers to be important parties (universities and research organizations).

Dick mentioned that mentioning our alliance with MTSU, UF, and NASA / HEC may give us a somewhat louder voice. Chuck and Francisco said they will have to think about the best way to show their universities' involvement. Jim T said that we can certainly say that Jove was started with NASA funding; Shing felt stating that we are collaborating with a NASA funded research and education effort (the HEC) would be a good idea.

Whit mentioned that this is not a legal proceeding, so there are no hard and fast rules. Jim Brown asked if including images in the response was appropriate; Whit thought it would be.

Dick felt that we should investigate how previous noise floor studies were accomplished. Whit will send to Dave the applicable ITU recommendations so Dave can contact those responsible. It was noted that the ITU docs do not rely on peer-reviewed information and therefore may not be 100% accurate.

Dave will also draft a response to the FCC's inquiry and pass it around to the group.

Archiving

Mark indicated that Juno Cruise data will be available publicly on November 1st. Jim T asked when the dividing line is between cruise and the rest of the mission; Mark will check, but thinks the cruise portion of the data will end at orbit insertion. Dave asked for a URL to the data; Mark will pass that around to the group.

Mark Sharlow of the PDS has taken over the reins of the SUG archiving effort from Todd King. Mark has been involved with this effort from the beginning. Shing asked if all Radio Jove data is archived at the PDS yet; Mark is not sure how much is done yet.

Shing also asked in any Juno data has been posted; Mark does not see any yet. Shing asked if Juno data was immediately public or had an embargo period; Mark was not sure. Jim Sky is still working on generation 2 of the CopySPS utility. This should not prevent anyone from sending in their current SPS files who has not done so before. One of the things the new version will do is read the manifest file created by version 1 that lists all of the files sent in on the first submission. Thus it can avoid re-sending those files. The next update to CopySPS will also submit SPD files so a name change is in order for the copy program. **Anyone who has not submitted data on a PDS hard drive is asked to do so and to contact Jim Sky for any needed help.**

Software

Jim S is working on modifications to the data copying program to make it able to handle SPD files as well as SPS files. This will facilitate data transfer of SPD files to the PDS.

Jim Sky indicated that experimentation continues with Nathan's SDRPlay2RSS program. He is trying to make the program easier to use from within RSS. The next RSS update should allow multiple configurations of the SDRPlay front end to be selected.

JUNO

Chuck is making several ground-based observations using the LWA-1.

2017 Solar Eclipse

Chuck mostly done with a guide for participation in observing the 2017 eclipse with a Radio Jove receiver and one or two dipoles.

**Next SUG Telecon Tuesday, 25 Oct 2016 at 5:00 pm EDT (2100 UTC)
(844) 467-6272, 352297#**