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From: Nickol aus Leggett [mailto:leggett3@gmail.com]  
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Subject: Third party submission of prior art for patent application

The Use of Third Party Preissuance Submissions as a Method for National Competition and Conflict

Comments from Nickol aus E. Leggett, independent inventor

The following point was discussed among the audience at the Inventors' Symposium (October 27 & 28, 2011 at the American Art Museum, Washington DC).

The America Invents Act has a third party preissuance submissions feature that could be used as a method for nation state competition and conflict.

In this situation, a nation could submit preissuance submissions in order to accomplish the following goals:

1. Sabotage and delay the American patent system by causing confusion in the processing of important patent applications.
2. Cause inventions that could have been patented to be pushed into the public domain (patent busting).
3. Cause a decline in the legitimacy of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and a subsequent departure of independent inventors and small companies from participation in the patent system.
4. Replace American patent applications with prior art (either valid or invalid) from the attacking nation.
5. Raise questions about the validity and technical accuracy of American patent applications

The USPTO needs to have a formal process of cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in order to watch for any such national attack on our patent system through preissuance submissions or through other public participation features of the America Invents Act.

In addition, the USPTO should maintain a public data base identifying all of the prior art citations submitted as third party preissuance submissions. This would allow the public to examine potential instances of national attacks and potential sources of such attacks.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix A - My background

I am an individual independent inventor holding three U.S. Patents. My latest patent is a wireless bus for computers and other digital devices (U.S. Patent # 6,771,935). I am also a certified electronics technician (ISCET and iNARTE) and an Extra Class amateur radio operator (call sign N3NL). I have a Master of Arts degree in Political Science from the Johns Hopkins University (June 1970). In addition, I am a professional technical writer.

My experience in amateur radio and electronics enabled me to invent a wireless bus for computers and other digital machines (U.S. Patent # 6,771,935). In addition, I

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have worked on other technical advances such as defining a "lighthouse protocol" for enhancing radio communications in the microwave frequency bands. I am also the inventor of a microwave-based insect killing system for greenhouse incoming air flows (unpatented).

Some of my document references are listed below:

United States Patent 6,771,935, Wireless Bus August 3, 2004  
United States Patent 3,280,929 Ground-Effect Machine October 25, 1966  
United States Patent 3,280,930 Ground-Effect Vehicle October 25, 1966

"Demonstration and Development of Amateur Radio Applications of Natural Vacuum Electronics"; Nickol aus E. Leggett, N3NL - 22nd AMSAT Space Symposium and Annual Meeting October 8-10, 2004 in Arlington, Virginia

"A 'Lighthouse' Protocol for Random Microwave Contacts", Nickol aus E. Leggett, N3NL, QEX The Experimenter's Exchange - Technical Notes July/August 2004 - American Radio Relay League, Newington, CT.

I am an author, with my wife Judith F. Leggett, of numerous peer-reviewed papers on controlled-environment agriculture. Judith is an agricultural expert. We presented these papers at space engineering conferences.

I have submitted over 200 regulatory documents in rule making dockets at the Federal Communications Commission. These documents of mine are accessible online on the Internet at the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). In addition, I have filed regulatory comments at the EPA, FAA, and the TSA. These comments are accessible on the Regulations.gov web site.