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Column: LOSERS: BTS Skytrain





BTS Skytrain

The new improved pretty-much perfect, mostly elevated railway did not fail as much last week as it did the week before. And about that, you have until July 31 to physically turn in your tickets from those horrible days in late June and get some money back. Last week, in addition to late trains and commuters lined up down the stairs and into the street (again) we got revelations. It turns out that the BTS runs on wireless signals and messages, using the 2400MHz spectrum. That's immediately next door to the DTAC-TOT phone bandwidth of 2300MHz. There's technical blah-blah here we haven't room for but the fascinating thing is that the so-called telecoms regulators, the always interesting National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) hasn't regulated that BTS spectrum. It's unlicensed. The Skytrain folks took it over before there was an NBTC, and the "regulator" has done nothing since. Unscheduled delays are, thus, on the schedule for a while yet.