WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising:

determining, by an electronic device, one or more signal characteristics of a link between the electronic device and a base station;

estimating, by the electronic device, a coupling loss for the link based on the one or more signal characteristics;

determining, by the electronic device, whether the coupling loss exceeds a maximum coupling loss (MCL) for the link; and

in response to determining that the coupling loss exceeds the MCL, delaying, by the electronic device, transmission of one or more messages from the electronic device over the link to the base station.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining, by the electronic device, updated values of the one or more signal characteristics of the link;

re-estimating, by the electronic device, the coupling loss for the link based on the updated values;

determining, by the electronic device, whether the re-estimated coupling loss exceeds the MCL for the link; and

in response to determining that the re-estimated coupling loss does not exceed the MCL, transmitting, by the electronic device, the one or more messages from the electronic device to the base station over the link.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more signal characteristics include one or more of a path loss, a reference signal received quality (RSRQ), or a signal to interference noise ratio (SINR).

4. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the one or more signal characteristics comprises applying a propagation model of a signal between the electronic device and the base station.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the estimating of the coupling loss is further based on at least one of a bandwidth constant or an environment constant.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the estimating of the coupling loss is further based on at least one of a thermal noise floor associated with the base station or a noise figure associated with the base station.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining, by the electronic device, the MCL for the link based on one or more of a transmission power or a noise tolerance for the link.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the determining the MCL for the link is further based on at least one of a bandwidth constant or an environment constant.

9. A network device comprising:

one or more processors; and

a memory storing instructions that when executed by the one or more processors causes the network device to perform operations comprising:

measuring one or more signal parameters of a wireless link coupling the network device to a base station;

determining a first estimate of a coupling loss for the wireless link based on the one or more signal parameters; and

in response to determining that the first estimate of the coupling loss is greater than a maximum coupling loss (MCL) that can be tolerated for transmissions using the wireless link, postponing transmission of one or more messages from the network device to the base station using the wireless link.

10. The network device of claim 9, wherein the operations further comprise:

measuring updated values of the one or more signal parameters of the wireless link;

determining a second estimate of the coupling loss for the wireless link based on the updated values; and

in response to determining that the second estimate of the coupling loss is not greater than the MCL, transmitting the one or more messages from the network device to the base station over the wireless link.

11. The network device of claim 9, wherein the one or more signal parameters include one or more of a path loss, a reference signal received quality (RSRQ), or a signal to interference noise ratio (SINR).

12. The network device of claim 9, wherein measuring the one or more signal parameters comprises applying a propagation model of a signal between the network device and the base station.

13. The network device of claim 9, wherein the first estimate of the coupling loss is further based on at least one of a bandwidth constant, an environment constant, a thermal noise floor associated with the base station, or a noise figure associated with the base station.

14. The network device of claim 9, wherein the operations further comprise:

determining one or more additional estimates of the coupling loss during transmission of the one or more messages using the wireless link;

determining a signal condition profile for the wireless link based on the one or more additional estimates of the coupling loss; and

updating the MCL for the wireless link based on the signal condition profile.

15. The network device of claim 9, wherein the operations further comprise determining the MCL for the wireless link based on one or more of a transmission power, a noise tolerance for the wireless link, a bandwidth constant or an environment constant.

16. A non-transitory computer-readable medium storing instructions that, when executed by an electronic device, cause the electronic device to perform operations comprising:

determining one or more characteristics of a radio-frequency (RF) link coupling the electronic device to a cellular base station;

estimating a coupling loss between the electronic device and the cellular base station based on the one or more characteristics of the RF link; and

in response to determining that the estimated coupling loss is greater than a maximum coupling loss (MCL) for the RF link, delaying transmission of one or more messages to the cellular base station until a re-estimate of the coupling loss is not greater than the MCL.

17. The non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the operations further comprise in response to the re-estimate of the coupling loss being not greater than the MCL, transmitting the one or more messages to the cellular base station using the RF link.

18. The non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the one or more characteristics of the RF link include one or more of a path loss, a reference signal received quality (RSRQ), or a signal to interference noise ratio (SINR).

19. The non-transitory computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the estimated coupling loss is further based on at least one of a bandwidth constant, an environment constant, a thermal noise floor associated with the cellular base station, or a noise figure associated with the cellular base station.

20. The non-transitory computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein estimating the coupling loss comprises at least one of:

summing a first characteristic of the RF link included in the one or more characteristics of the RF link and a second characteristic of the RF link included in the one or more characteristics of the RF link; or

subtracting a constant from the one or more characteristics of the RF link.