

This comment is in reference to BPL (broadband over power lines).

I think that PLC (broadband over the power lines or BPL) is a very BAD idea. It has been tried in other countries and wiped out HF communications there. In those countries the scheme was abandoned or modified as to not interfere (with the ham bands). I for one, have a hard enough time getting the power company to clean up their act when they interfere with my HF station through their ill-maintained utility infrastructure!

Almost all HF communications are done via weak signals propagated via the ionosphere. If this broadband over power line scheme were put in effect, it would make HF communications difficult, if not impossible. It could easily become a global problem especially during years of high sunspot numbers (enhanced HF propagation). It could render long-range communications using simple point-to-point equipment useless.

Even at very low power levels it has potential to become a severe problem. I have communicated over thousands of miles using only milliwatts of power and simple wire antennas. I can hear static crashes from lightning storms on the other side of the country and even hear naturally occurring radio noise from the other planets in our solar system! With the nature of HF, the way it propagates and the way it's used, BPL has the potential to render useless a valuable tool for communication.

Not only would you have hundreds of thousands of ham radio operators fuming (many more world-wide); it would affect all other users of HF. The spectrum below 30 MHz is too precious a resource to blunder away with this shortsighted idea.

There must be another way. The immensely useful first 30 MHz of the spectrum must be protected.

Thank you,

Marco A Wikstrom  
823 Pennsylvania Ave  
Medford OR 97501

541-773-2612  
[axelwik@msn.com](mailto:axelwik@msn.com)