

Dear Sirs/Madams;

It has come to my attention that a form of Internet service is either progressively being tested (or about to be) over existing power lines.

This supposedly cost-efficient Internet access appears on the surface to be an outstanding idea. This technology however will wreak havoc on the Amateur Radio community wherever it is implemented. Also, because data would flow through power lines, this may also cause unforeseen interference in home and business Internet connectivity, telephones (home and business), television sets, home theater systems or anything else which requires the use of electricity and radio frequencies.

A large enough interference level affecting the Amateur Radio community could severely impact the level of participants in this hobby which the Federal Government has relied upon so heavily during times of disaster when alternate forms of communications are required to carry out search and rescue or relief efforts during and after a disaster. Granted, most Amateur communications during these events occur on VHF and UHF frequencies, which will probably not be affected by BPL. However, the majority of Amateur Radio operators enter the hobby with the desire of operating on HF frequencies and contacting distant stations around the world. With the possibility of the HF spectrum being threatened by RF interference to a point of making that portion of the hobby unusable, that would effectively decrease the population of Radio operators, thereby compromising the effectiveness of the emergency communication system. The Amateur Radio operators currently involved with Amateur Radio Emergency Services, and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services, (ARES and RACES respectively) provide a service to the United States Government, as well as local Governments and Law Enforcement agencies at no cost to anyone but themselves. They operate their own personal equipment, on their own volunteered time, to assist these Governments and the citizens of their communities in times of need.

With all of that said, I also believe that this technology poses an even greater risk, and that is to open up even greater, unforeseen gaps in the security of data that passes over these electric lines. I believe that this form of communication poses serious risks to our Homeland Security. Risks that have not even begun to be taken into consideration as these Service Providers rush to make a profit at everyone else's and our Homeland Security's expense.

It is imperative that risks to data security, interference from such designs and implementation are studied, and that the interference these systems are already causing others, where it has been

implemented in other nations, be taken into consideration.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments.

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