

The proposal to allow broadband internet operations via Power Lines is frightening to we hams, who already suffer, in many cases, extensive power line interference. Although the radiation by PLC is not likely to extend far, it only has to extend a few feet to make a High Frequency receiver unusable.

It is my understanding that testing is underway in several parts of the nation, and so far the results are that interference is not a major issue. I think this is misleading. Anything that radiates a broadband radio signal in our homes is a threat to this hobby. It is also a threat to other forms of communications, possibly military and aviation, though that remains to be seen.

As a licensed amateur radio operator for nearly fifty years I do not want to see this hobby ruined by an approach to "every home internet" that does not take into account other users of the spectrum. This concept needs to be investigated further, sure, but it also needs to be tested around HF radios, and possibly VHF ones as well, to determine what level of interference can be expected. The current tests appear to be geared toward seeing if the PLC is workable, and I think it is, from an internet standpoint. I am not sure it is from a radio standpoing. Even AM broadcast could be severely disrupted, and the activities of those who call themselves ShortWave Listeners could simply cease to exist.

Maybe not. Perhaps there is a way around this potential interference problem. If so, it needs to not only be addressed, but disseminated to the current users of the HF radio spectrum, so we better understand not only our rights, as holders of FCC licenses, but the dangers we may face.

Thank you

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