

34 Cambridge Street
Ayer, Massachusetts 01432-1361
May 21, 2003

Dear Sirs:

I have recently become aware of what appears to be a push toward authorizing the use of Power Line Communications (PLC), which seems on the surface to be a brilliant idea. I have DSL myself, but I can certainly see the attractiveness for supplying a data connection over the power lines - they are already in place.

As a Radio Amateur, though, it is clear that any broadband signal transmitted on a long piece of wire is likely to interfere with the Amateur Radio Service, as well as a host of other radio technologies.

Inasmuch as the Amateur Radio Service provides important backup emergency communications, deployment of a technology that would disrupt, in any way, the ability of radio amateurs to practice their skills and maintain their readiness to respond to emergencies and natural disasters, would be a serious mistake.

While a seemingly large proportion of radio amateurs are dead-set against the PLC technologies, the remainder, along with the American Radio Relay League, are willing to give the benefit of the doubt, and want to see real, meaningful, scientifically collected and analyzed data drive the correct decision. If PLC is going to substantially interfere with the Amateur Radio Service, then it cannot be deployed. The stakes are simply too high.

Thank you very much for allowing my opinion to be heard.

Respectfully,
John A. Griswold, KB1HDO