

Honorable Chairman and Commissioners:

I wish to file comments in opposition to 03-104 in re: Broadband over power line inquiry. I am an Amateur Radio Operator with an Extra Class License with 28 years of experience in all phases of the Amateur Radio Service. I have carefully read the notice of inquiry and supporting data, and I have come to the conclusion that this system will NOT work, and will certainly create undue dangerous interference to not just the Amateur allocations, but also to Government, Military, Scientific, Broadcast, Public Safety, Air Traffic, and Satellite communications. The power companies are experts at distributing high levels of 60 hertz AC power, period. They are not equipped to send broadband signals from 2-80 Mhz without loss (which would have to be compensated for by doubling the broadband signal's power again and again to mitigate the loss. Part 15 can NOT be eased to permit this! Part 15 rules are there for everyone's protection. Even though I said the power company is the "expert" at distributing power, I also have to say that the power grid here in Northern Illinois is woefully outdated. Standing underneath a power line with field strength measurement equipment will tell you of the 60 hertz buzz/leakage. Individual users of HF spectrum have called the FCC in the past for help in mitigating the noise with little or no help received.

I have looked at the system that is proposed for each individual PLC user, and I see real danger here. There is a transformer like device that connects to the modem/USB input of the users computer. 120 volts AC coupled to a low power device! What happens when there is a power surge or worse yet a lightning strike nearby? It really is not a matter of IF, it is a matter of WHEN there will be a strike. A surge could be 400-4000 volts, a lightning strike is in the millions of volts and hundreds of thousands of amps. Will the FCC pay for the damages to a person's home for allowing this dangerous system to exist? In this post 9/11 society the FCC needs to be aware of potential terrorist outlets. A system like this undermined by a terrorist has far reaching potential. When terror strikes and the need for mobile/portable/fixed HF communications is needed, what will we do when we turn our radios on and there is a 40 db over S9 buzz on our frequencies, either by PLC's design, a terrorist's intervention to the PLC system, or a failure of a power line nearby? The bottom line is that everything the Commission does must meet the public's best interest, convenience, and necessity. This proposal will NOT do this in any way. "Cheap Broadband Access" is not a viable goal within interest convenience and necessity. If you want cheap (and far better) broadband, we need to look much harder at fiber optics. Here in Northbrook Illinois, they spent millions of dollars on fiber optic cables, stringing it from pole to pole, burying it, feeding it into buildings, etc, and it is NOT being used..... Why? I am afraid that the FCC is acting like a "cheerleader" for this technology without knowing all of its downfalls. The FCC needs to speak to the authorities in Japan and Europe where: 1. It doesn't work 2. It spews out dangerous interference 3. It caused housefires 4. It lost money for its principals and 5. It was banned anyway. Tying our economic revival to something like this is wrong. I am aware that the government needs to find ways to spur economic growth, but this is not the answer.

I am not sure if this filing system will reach you in a timely manner, so I will also tender a hard copy of these comments via US mail forthwith.

Thank you.

Walter J. Klinger

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