

To: The Federal Communications Commission and interested parties
Fm: Amateur Radio Station - N4YAV
RE: 03-104

Dear Sirs/Madams,

In reply to the Notice of Inquiry # 03-104

It has come to my attention that Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) is being considered for approval under the current FCC Part 15 regulation.

If this is allowed to take place, it would cause significant interference within the Amateur Radio HF bands and disrupt communications. A disruption, or interference, in the HF bands could hamper or interrupt communications that take place on these bands. These communications include ARES/RACES emergency and disaster relief communications and other instances where Amateur Radio Operators use these bands for civil service. BPL would cause significant technical difficulties to be overcome to communicate almost any time! That is, if they could be overcome! BPL interference with the HF Radio frequencies has been documented by a number of studies around the globe and verified by testing in the communications communities.

Current FCC Part 15 guidelines do not go far enough to regulate this emerging technology. Part 15 should be reviewed, strengthened and enacted prior to any BPL system is placed online. To make these new guidelines work, strict enforcement would be required. With identity fraud, hackers, crackers and the like prevalent online today, security for BPL users should be of major concern as well. If you "broadcast" personal and private information on unsecured, unshielded powerlines, it is available for anyone who would listen; regardless of their intentions! Encryption is not enough!

Please take these comments for what they are; comments. But, please, commission a study of these these claims.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark L. McAllister,
Amateur Radio Station - N4YAV