

I am an active emergency volunteer working with the Red Cross and the Amateur Radio Emergency Services group. I use HF communications as a tool for this work as well as for personal recreation. Over the 30 years I've been an active radio amateur I've encountered serious power line interference in every community I've lived or operated in. After numerous complaints and considerable effort on my part, including providing training materials for the power company technicians, I've managed to get some of these problems resolved. Based on my experience so far, I have no reason to believe that any power company I've had dealings with has the technical competence or will to maintain a 'broad band over power lines' system in a way that would minimize interference to HF communications.

In addition, nearly all the power grids I've seen are very poorly maintained (from an RFI point of view). This is likely to make it very difficult and expensive to minimize RFI problems.

The current problems created by 'part 15' devices and the poor quality of consumer electronics in general have reduced the usefulness of the amateur HF bands tremendously. The addition of 'broadband over power lines' technology can only make the problems much worse.

In my opinion, current high speed Internet technology is more than sufficient for the demands of both industry and the public. 'Broad band over power lines' technology is not needed and the potential problems far out weight any expected benefits.