

Power Line Communications (PLC) and Amateur Radio

I am not an engineer and do not understand any of the mathematics that goes into how the proposed Broadband over power lines (BPL) works. I do understand that this new broadband delivery system will affect the landscape, every visitor to our country and every citizens of the United States.

I was led to understand that anytime some thing new was going to be built an environment impact study should be performed. I believe that was by passed in this case

I am not going to bring up the interference problems, I am sure this issue will be well covered by the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL). From the material I have read from the ARRL I am opposed to the BPL system. I believe that documented interference and substantial back ground noise that will be generated by BPL on the HF frequency will affect every license amateur radio operator and every other license station operators who use the HF frequencies. For the record I use cable for my Internet service.

My concern is Safe Exposure Levels

When I was studying material to pass my ammeter radio license I was exposed to the subject of safe RF exposure limits. The main way to reduce RF exposure was to lower the power applied to the antenna and/or move the antenna away from people.

What you are proposing to do is use the electric lines everywhere in the USA include every house in the USA to carry a broadband signal that generates RF. What you intend to do is bring BPL that is generating RF energy into every home in the United States. This means RF will surround every person who has their electric service connected to the BPL system whether they use the BPL system or not. In fact, so much RF will be generated that a S9 background noise level is possible to occur. To make matters worse there will be no way for anyone to prevent this exposure because there will be no way to turn the BPL system off and preventing the RF for getting into your house.

I believe what most people will believe is that you (the FCC) has allowed big time money people to introduce a system that has and will cause injury to the general public. It will not matter if this issue is true or false. All it would take is class action lawyers or nightline or 20-20 or some national new service to televise this story and your agency and all electric companies will be under siege by the new media.

The next problem you will encounter will be that you (the FCC) itself has documented this issue for the class action lawyer to use at trial. Don't believe me, how much did they get from the tobacco industry. The tobacco companies supply the documentation for the class action lawyers who got millions and maybe even a billion from the settlement.

Nobody thought they would get anywhere with this law suite because the government already told the world and ordered written warnings be printed on the cigarette packages,. People came up from the cracks and swore to god they did not know about cancer in tobacco. The results, the class action lawyer's won.

Remember the issues of magnetism generate from power lines. Did that one go away? The problem is even if you can prove something is not true, you are the government and therefore you are hiding the facts to prevent law suites against the government. In other words you are covering up the truth and there is no way you can defend yourself against rumors because no matter what you say everyone will just say you just are lying again.

I believe it is in your best interest that you make sure this issue is well covered before you give this BPL system the green light. You should test and document what will be the exposure level from this new system and if even if it the RF exposure is low (considered save) you must then answers this question. How will it affect people with a constant low RF energy that is taking place over a long time period of time? If you do not have these answers then you are just asking for trouble and I guarantee it will find you.

Thank you