

In many cases of public emergency whether natural or man-made, amateur radio operators provide valuable assistance to their communities. This is done without our expecting anything in return. We performed these services long before the term "Citizen Corps" was coined. To this end, amateur radio is a valuable resource that must be protected.

I am an amateur radio operator, callsign KD1YV. My personal experience includes providing support for garnering volunteers to assist New York City during the terrible tragedies of September 11, 2001. On a smaller, but still important scale, I provide emergency communications support for the Office of Emergency Management in my home town of Bethel, CT. As well, any time severe weather threatens our area, I participate in amateur radio Skywarn nets, offering ground-level weather information to the National Weather Service.

I understand that the current FCC Part 15 limits for BPL technology can result in substantial interference potential to amateur frequencies. The power-lines over which transmission is proposed will bring harmful interference to every neighborhood over which BPL is deployed. Allowing these limits to be increased with almost certainly cause harmful interference to the amateur HF and VHF bands.

I believe that it is critical that the FCC continue to protect licensed users of the spectrum. Please consider my comment as strongly against any change to the regulations to encourage deployment of BPL.

James Ritterbusch