

June 23, 2003

MEMO TO: FCC

FROM: Mark Croney

SUBJECT: BPL Notice of Inquiry Comments (Proceeding 03-104)

I am filing these comments on Proceeding 03-104. I am an amateur radio operator holding an extra class license with the callsign of W4ZF. I am concerned over the proposed BPL project and the potential it holds for creating harmful interference to the entire amateur HF spectrum. I have read numerous articles about the technology employed and strongly wish to voice my comments in opposition to the deployment of this type of service the way it is currently specified.

Amateur radio operators use sensitive receiving equipment on the HF bands. The BPL technology will, by all the data I have seen, cause unacceptable levels of interference with the operation of amateur radio operators in the HF spectrum. The amateur radio service has a long history of providing public service and is arguably even more important to us after 9-11. It is crucial that we protect the service this activity provides to our country. The absolute limits as proposed do not provide for interference-free operation of these devices.

The implementation of BPL will provide for repeated disruption of amateur communications and thus will manifest itself as harmful interference. BPL is an interesting concept, but not necessary to provide digital access to homes throughout the country. The tremendous growth of cable and telecom companies in the broadband digital and wireless broadband digital technologies provides a tremendous opportunity and access to people in this country. BPL is a technology with some tremendously bad side effects.

Amateur radio is only one service in the HF spectrum that will be negatively impacted by the implementation of BPL. Other services will most assuredly experience the same harmful interference impact of this technology.