

Concerning Broadband Delivery over Power-lines (BPL): as a new General Class Amateur radio operator, and as an engineer in the telecommunications industry, I am aware of both sides of the debate over regulation of BPL equipment. While I can certainly see the economic advantages of allowing higher unlicensed power limits to the Public Utilities and BPL equipment providers, and I agree that BPL systems promise significant benefits to the public and will help to further extend the internet into currently un-served areas. However, as a licensed user of the radio spectrum, I am against making special allowances for the PUC's that degrade the background noise environment for the rest of us. Power lines reach into every neighborhood. They are high above ground and very long. They are good RF radiators (antenna). The sharp edge rates of high-speed digital signals will bleed harmonics across the entire radio spectrum from the low KHz bands all the way into the 6m and 2m bands. In rural areas, this interference may represent a small increase in back-ground noise; but in large cities where there will be thousands and perhaps 10's and 100's of thousands of BPL users, the impact on back-ground noise levels across the HF and MF radio bands will surely be significant even at the current unlicensed power limits. It is my feeling that the FCC has a responsibility to protect the interests of the legally licensed users of the radio spectrum from the excessive interference that an increase in BPL power limits could represent. Again, as a electrical engineer employed in the telecommunications industry, I can see the potential for positive economic and public benefits that BPL represents, but I am opposed to special considerations for this technology at the expense of a high quality environment for the licensed users of the radio spectrum. If BPL technology can not be economically justified under the current emission standards, then it is not yet ready for wide-spread deployment.

Best Regards, Jim Vorgert - McKinney Texas.
public
interference