

I am responding to your request for comments on the Broadband over Powerline issue. I think this type of technology is wonderful. I live in a place where getting a decent phone line is a challenge, let alone a fast Internet connection. Having said that, I am also an Amateur Radio Operator. I have just entered the hobby, but have seen what the ham community can do. We help in times of distress, relay messages between military families, and develop new ways to use the radio spectrum. While getting fast Internet to everyone, everywhere is important this technology will bring an end to amateur radio and broadcast operation around the world.

Most powerlines were not designed to carry high frequency energy. They were meant to carry 60Hz electrical power, and have been found to radiate energy higher in frequency. Now, using extremely low power will help, but hams often use under one watt of power to communicate hundreds of miles. Plus, the lines will probably radiate harmonics which will wipe out the FM broadcast band and some many other licensed users of the spectrum.

Please, consider that many commercial organizations are only out for profit and will find a way around the rules if they see the rules as standing in the way of profit.