

Reference: ET Docket 03-104

Dear Sirs,

I have been an amateur radio operator for only 10 years, but earlier in my life there were a couple of amateurs that helped to steer me into an electronics career. I am in the process of learning the Morse code so I can upgrade my license and be able to utilize the HF bands. I recently heard that the local power company (Electric Power Board of Chattanooga) was planning to move into the Internet provider business. Upon further investigation I discovered that power companies are planning on flooding the HF spectrum with BPL. I presently have Internet over the phone line at home and over cable TV at work. I have at least one other option for Internet service. Except to provide additional income to the power companies, I see no good reason to allow them to pollute the airwaves.

I have viewed overseas BPL test and have come to the conclusion that if it were allowed here, it would be a waste to continue my license upgrade. From time to time in our area amateur operators have provided a much-needed service in time of disaster. Although I probably will not participate in RACES until I retire from firefighting, I probably will participate someday unless BPL kills the HF spectrum.

In my job, I am have often been called on to locate interference from point sources such as motor controls and other high power controls. The interference from BPL could have much greater interference potential than these localized systems.

The FCC has promised to protect licensed users of the spectrum. Is this going to be a promise broken? Is public safety going to take second seat to power company's bottom lines?

Sincerely,

Dennis Thomason, P.E.
KE4DED