

Dear Sirs,

I have been a licensed radio amateur for over 50 years and am very concerned about the possibility of the virtual destruction of our fine hobby by those who request widespread use of BPL. My area of expertise in amateur radio operations is in the reception of very weak signals on the HF bands. I have built an impressive radio station, at considerable cost, to optimize the reception of foreign (DX) signals at or near the noise threshold. By employing directional arrays, multiple two-wire Beverage receiving antennas and careful design of low noise filtering systems, I have been successful in winning many competitions with other stations throughout the world.

As an electrical engineer, I understand the potential for substantial interference to my operations on the HF bands if BPL were to go into widespread use in the USA. We, as amateur radio operators, have made significant contributions to the art and science of communications over the years. I voice my objection to any increase in what amounts to man-made noise on the HF bands. We have had to contend with Over The Horizon radar interference from both the USSR and the US military for many years. Happily, that problem has all but been eradicated. Please do not generate another form of interference to this hobby in the form of BPL.

The creation of the Citizens Band radio service was well intentioned, but has developed into a worldwide interference problem on the ten-meter amateur band. Albeit from illegal operations of equipment intended for point-to-point communications, the service has become virtually impossible to control. Widespread use of BPL has the same inherent, unanticipated interference potential, and will become a nightmare for the FCC to manage. We, as the long-term users of the amateur bands and a valued asset for the provision of emergency communications during disasters, do not look forward to BPL usage. Please do not permit this unnecessary BPL service to expand in any way beyond what is already permitted as an experimental evaluation. I have viewed the ARRL's test video of the real existence of EMI generated by the current BPL activity and am horrified at the potential for demise of the amateur HF bands as we know them today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Sigismonti". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a stylized "S".

Ronald Sigismonti, N3RS, BSEE