

BPL is a very serious threat to communications that this nation depends on -- communications that amateur radio provides during times of disaster. Theoretical and empirical clearly show that BPL will render amateur HF communications useless. There are times when HF is the only way to get messages through to their intended destinations. The Department of Homeland Security knows that and has made Amateur Radio an integral part of its planning.

BPL is a bad idea made worse by the fact that the power companies are at the heart of the operation of BPL. Power companies have a terrible record of resolving customer complaints so, once BPL is installed and running, we should not expect that they will be any more responsible for curing problems that surely will plague amateur radio operators as well as other users of the spectrum. Even consumers will not be spared problems as some of their household devices receive interference from BPL.

I urge you to look at the theoretical and empirical data carefully and consider the very serious consequences of allowing BPL to move forward. It's a bad idea made worse by the fact that the power companies will control it. Haven't they ripped off the public enough?