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Re: FCC Docket 03-104 (Broadband over Power Line)

I completely oppose the prospect of deploying broadband over power line service unless it can be, and is, done in such manner that there are no detrimental affects to existing services. I am an Amateur radio operator (Amateur Extra class) and an Internet user. The prospect of economical and readily available broadband access is tempting. If such a service could be provided without sacrifice to other services, I would be a proponent.

However, these lines will inevitably radiate and cause great interference to other equally important radio frequency communications that are already licensed primary users of the frequencies in question (2-80 MHZ). This is a LAW of physics and not subject to regulatory control! As is well known, defective or dirty insulators on such power lines can already cause broad-spectrum interference simply by integral harmonics of the 60 Hertz power line frequency. Putting discrete or spread spectrum data signals on such lines will only exacerbate the problem.

If the high level, broad spectrum, interference to HF services caused by BPL that many fear becomes reality, I fear the end of any use of the above spectrum will be near. Let us not rush forward with spectrum polluting technology just because industry has millions of dollars to spend lobbying for such a folly and millions of dollars in profit to be made from it. Amateur Radio will no longer be able to function as a Homeland Security asset in the future if BPL becomes a reality, and I do want as much Homeland Security as feasible! If FCC says no to BPL the electronics industry will simply find another way to provide broadband services without interfering with long-term existing services and homeland security.

Thank you,  
Thomas Ayers, KG6MVB