

The current proposal before the commission concerning Broadband Over Power lines, if enacted upon and approved, would be a step backward in technology by forcing a potentially harmful transmission method onto an already fragile backbone that already has a long and spotty history of HF interference. In my over 40 years as an amateur radio operator, I have found the power companies to be the most frequent sources of HF interference and one of the most difficult to deal with.

For the power companies to promote this system as harmless is simply unconscionable. The power grid is already one of the most RF interference sources in our spectrum. It is also one of the most susceptible to failure during times of emergency which could result in unparalleled masking of essential emergency HF communications at the very time of its most urgent need.

There are simply too many points of potential RF leakage in this system to make it a viable system that can co-exist without threat of interference to the other users of the HF spectrum.

Is it not better to utilize the next generation of transmission means by using fiber optic and wireless networking than to risk the potential pollution of our HF spectrum?

This proposal seems to be just an bold attempt by the power companies to grab a piece of the telecommunications pie. It must be noted that they have never been a significant participant in the telecommunications network and should stay within the arena where they are best suited; simply providing power distribution to the consumer.

Please don't endanger our HF spectrum with this proposal.

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