

BPL deployment appears to be an almost certain harmful interference source to any HF communications service. Recent in-field testing performed by the Amateur Radio Relay League shows RF noise interference that would virtually wipe out the Amateur Radio Service's ability to communicate. This type of interference would surely also impact many of the other users of HF including Homeland Defense applications. There are many HF services using the spectrum. How will they be protected from this harmful interference and BPL still deployed?

My first concern involves the Amateur Radio Service. The Amateur community is a resource that may be called on by local, state and federal governments to provide essential backup communication capabilities. The unique ability of amateur radio to provide global, regional, and local communication is only possible with a spectrum capable of supporting this type of communication. BPL appears poised to practically destroy the resource.

Also key to having this critical resource of volunteer communicators is personal proficiency. If BPL is deployed and renders the spectrum available useless there will be no operators practicing the art. Without practice this skill diminishes to the point that it will not be available any longer.

Many new communications mediums such as cell phones and the internet have shown their ability to provide routine communications. However these highly complex services also show their vulnerability in time of high demand such as natural disaster or other catastrophe.

The amateur radio service has been there always ready as the able and willing backup. Please ensure that this vital capability is not lost by not allowing BPL deployment to interfere.