

Some people/organizations/companies may feel there will be no interference problems to other users of the Radio-Spectrum from <2MHz to 80MHz from BPL interests. I refer you to the following websites for useful information relevant to this BPL issue:

<http://www.ce-mag.com/archive/03/ARG/hansen1.html>

<http://www.ce-mag.com/archive/03/ARG/hansen2.html>

I believe the following things need to happen BEFORE any BPL rule-making is considered: Select areas where there is a large active Amateur Radio (HAM) community in

- Several large industrial cities where noise-pollution from consumer-electronics-"Birdies", defective power distribution systems (noisy due to poor connections), other industrial/transit noise exists,
- Several small non-industrial cities that are relatively quiet electrically from an RFI point-of-view and
- Several very electrically quiet rural areas.

Then, over the course of a year, thoroughly investigate the levels of ANY interference between the experimental BPL and HF/VHF spectrum users who depend upon quiet receiving conditions. I do not believe this has been done in the so-called BPL "tests/trials" in the USA.

During the 10-year's I lived in residential Seattle's so-called "University-District (1988-->1999) I was subjected to unintentional interference from consumer-electronics. I could tune my receiver between 50.00-to-54MHz and hear hundreds of signals radiated from various consumer-electronics clock-oscillators, etc.

All of these signals were coming from outside my house because MY consumer-electronic products were turned-off. so, I feel I know how bad the RFI interference will be from BPL leakage radiation.

With permission granted by the Seattle-Area FCC Engineer-in-Charge, I operated an experimental DSSS Spread Spectrum System centered at 3.578MHz for one year. The power-level of the Spectral lines immediately to the side of the suppressed 3.578MHz carrier was limited to one milli-watt (0dBm). This system was easily heard (well above the high noise level in the NE-part of Seattle) several miles away from my house and, later, at distances close to 100 miles after the DSSS transmitter was moved to Stehekin, WA where there were no HAM's locally to be affected by the transmitter. Over a 95-mile path the DSSS signal was detected by KX7L at his quiet rural home close to the noise-floor of his receiver. For those individuals who depend upon weak-signal communications, BPL will be terrible neighbor from an RFI-point-of-view.

When I use my 1000-watt amplifier to communicate with distant stations on 1.8 and 3.5 MHz I am sure there will be many BPL-users who will be fussing about the "interference".

While living in Seattle, I experienced many complaints from neighbors using 49MHz cordless phones. Their phone calls were crippled by my 100-watt 50MHz transmissions.

There are sufficient means available for Internet/E-mail service providers to distribute their services other than BPL. The problems everyone will encounter if BPL ever becomes operational will become an FCC nightmare! Remember what happened when the 27MHz Citizens Band was started by the FCC - it became an uncontrolled environment.

What kind of protection can HAM's expect from the FCC in view of the fact the FCC denied a request by the Amateur Radio Community for a frequency allocation between 135.7-to-137.8KHz. I quote as follows:

"A lot of experimenters are still reeling after the recent refusal by the FCC to allow a 136-kHz allocation to the Amateur Service," Howell told ARRL. "This Part 5 license approval is most welcomed by the experimental community."

In May, the FCC unexpectedly turned down ARRL's petition to grant 135.7 to 137.8 kHz to amateurs. In its denial, the FCC cited arguments put forth by power companies that amateur operation in the vicinity of 136 kHz might interfere with power line carrier (PLC) systems used to control the power grid."

as quoted from the ARRL News-Letter (The ARRL Letter -Vol. 22, No. 32 August 15, 2003), Will the Amateur Radio Community be afforded the same protection from Power-line operators if they are allowed to begin BPL in the USA?

After reading this, I am left to wonder who "runs" the FCC - lobby-groups or enlightened FCC officials.

Remember, the same people who brought us the ENRON-fiasco are the same ones pounding the "BPL-drum" - marketing "slicky-boys" who want to make money at the expense of everyone else.

Thank you,

John R Bingham - W7WKR
PO Box 24
Stehekin, WA 98852-0024