

I echo the comments and position stated by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) by Ed Hare and urge consideration of the points raised by Chuck Carpenter (operator of Amateur Radio station W5USJ). The actual interference caused by Broadband over Power Lines will render high frequency communications extremely difficult or impossible for most typical applications.

This interference will cause excessive research and development to counteract its problems. These R&D costs will be borne by consumers, raising the cost of HF communications equipment and services. Since the power line utilities stand to benefit from the BPL proposal and since they do not share the cost of the remedy, the balance of responsibility for the resulting problems is unfair and improperly placed. The power line utilities should bear the burden of such R&D, as well as to provide remedies to the services affected by their interference (See Carpenter's comments for a partial list of such affected services).

Additionally, the interference is not confined to the United States. The power line utilities have no control over the laws of physics. Their interference will be propagated within our national borders as well as to other countries, some of which may not be allies in our battles against terrorism. Therefore, BPL represents a potential threat to national security, especially if (so-called) secure carriers divert some internet traffic through power lines for part of their transmissions.

Finally, the security of messages sent through BPL is very, very low, especially in consideration of the aged equipment in use for power transmission. First, the utilities need to fix the infrastructure, during which activity they can improve the channels for this secondary use; BPL is a secondary function to the primary function of power distribution. The recent blackout in the northeast highlights the need to replace this infrastructure, but the public should not participate in the cost of rebuilding it by fees imposed for broadband use.

Please do not allow Broadband over Power Lines. Thank you.

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