

To the Federal Communications Commission
In Response to NOI #03-104
From: Thomas R Tate Jr.

I submit the following comments in response to Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems, I am an individual writing on my own behalf with nothing to gain by the outcome of your decisions but with a financial loss possibility.

This is the second letter I am writing. I lost the first due to Tampa Electric Co, interrupting the service. This is the second interruption in the last two days (8/13 and 8/14). On August 2, 2003 we lost power for 6 hours and 45 minutes for no apparent reason. It was not mentioned in the newspapers or TV. Why, because it is a common occurrence. Would I consider using TECo as my Internet Service Provider? NO! As I write this, 50,000 people are without electric service! The power companies have all they can do now to attempt to produce and distribute electric power without any additional burden.

BPL is not ready to be used as a service to the public. When the power companies interfere with radio service, their past cooperation wouldn't lead you to believe they will be able to handle the additional air wave pollution any better. I checked a radio scanner report for the Minneapolis St Paul area and found the following to be operating between 2 and 80 MHz: Police, Fire, Attorney General, School Buses, Transit Buses, Red Cross, Military and Amateur Radio. Will the FCC have enough manpower to handle the complaints for the entire United States?

If there is telephone service everywhere there are power lines, why would we need BPL? We do have our choice of ISP's through the telephone lines and in addition we can use Cable and direct satellite TV. I doubt if the power companies will provide better service or lower any rates. Here is another case where too many cooks increase the cost of goods and service.

There are approximately 20,786 amateur radio operators licensed in Florida to operate within certain bands between 2 and 80 MHz (BPL's window). Let's assume that 10,000 each have \$1000 worth of equipment; that's 10 million dollars worth of equipment in Florida, or 500 million dollars in the United States that could become worthless if BMP is allowed to proceed at this time.

This privately owned equipment is available along with well trained technicians for the Federal Government to use at no cost. Surely the FCC doesn't want to discourage amateur radio communications by allowing BPL to pollute the air waves.

I encourage you to work with facts. Notice the wording in proponent language: "We believe that...", "We feel that....", "...is developing plans....", "Would you buy a car from one of these salesmen? No, of course not. The fact is that BPL does cause air wave pollution on the amateur radio bands.

Thank you for this opportunity.