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July 6, 2003

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

Subject: NOI 03-104 (Broadband over Power Line/Power Line Carrier)

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to you as I am very concerned that the implementation of Broadband over Power Line (BPL) / Power Line Carrier (PLC) may have very serious Radio Frequency Interference threats to the high frequency spectrum utilized by radio amateurs such as myself in our efforts to provide emergency communications.

Studies in Europe and Japan indicate that BPL/PLC causes harmful interference to high frequency communications. Additional investigation within the U.S. provides further evidence that the interference caused by this technology is not trivial. It is strong enough to obliterate all but the strongest signals, which would render high frequency communications virtually useless.

I live in a rural area of California, and high frequency communications are heavily relied upon in the face of natural events such as large storms, forest fires and earthquakes. These events happen much more often than I think most realize. Radio amateurs are frequently called upon to assist local law enforcement and firefighters in dealing with emergency situations. It would seem counter-productive for the Commission to permit implementation of BPL/PLC at the peril of emergency communications capabilities.

It is my hope that the FCC require that this new technology be thoroughly tested to insure that the high frequency spectrum utilized in emergency communications by a cadre of radio amateurs throughout the United States, not cause harmful interference to such.

Respectfully,

Brian Bishop
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