I am against the use of exposed or open line BPL. BPL poses a serious problem for any user of the HF Spectrum; including Commercial and Amateur Radio Operators, Short Wave Listeners, Military and Transportation services, Municipal Services (low-band VHF), among others. BPL drowns out many AM broadcast stations on the 550 Khz to 1700 Khz frequencies. The broadcasters will not be able to reach their current market listeners with advertising, programming, or emergency information.

Emmaus, PA, is an example of the type of interference generated where BPL has been already been placed into service. Many listeners in Emmaus cannot hear KYW AM 1030 kcs in Philadelphia, running 50,000 watts power. BPL also renders the HF spectrum useless to Amateur Radio Operators within 100 meters of the exposed BPL lines.

Currently Cable Services deliver similar services via "Closed Circuit" cables and fiber optics. Leakage of the Cable Services into the HF spectrum are prohibited by FCC rules. Open wire can not suppress intereference to existing services in the HF region. Open-wire lines radiate...they are antennas. Under the proposed rule, leakage (hardly an appropriate term in this case) of BPL into the HF spectrum will not even be a violation as open-wire lines cannot suppress the "leakage" of RF into the HF spectrum. BPL should be relegated only to shielded and properly filtered lines, similar to those required by the cable TV industry. RF signals are not supposed to escape from or intrude into the cable TV lines. Radio signals can coexist with cable signals even on the same frequencies. Havoc occurs when signals leak into and out of the cables. Currently, Amateur Radio Operators frequently contend with noisy electric power lines, hardware, and transformers which interfere with our reception. The FCC requires the electric utilities to repair and clean up those lines. Local electric utilities, such as COMED (Illinois), Met Ed and PPL, are very cooperative, compliant, and helpful.
Please do not allow any change by allowing "open wire BPL."
The Amateur Radio Community provides Emergency Communications when Natural, and Man-made Disasters occur. The cellular telephone system in New York City was rendered useless during the World Trade Center Distaster. What will happen to emergency communications capability with BPL?

Even if BPL is turned off during emergencies, what Amateur Operators will be left to communicate? Faced with the constant interference from BPL many, if not most, will have quit in disgust and dismantled their stations.

The FCC must protect the non-commercial communications interests that invade the HF spectrum. To damage the HF infrastructure of over 1 million licensed amateur radio operators, is to remove the backbone of emergency communications.

There are better ways to accomplish the same goal that the power industry is seeking. Lets build covered bridges around the problem, not clear the village of all the infrastructure.