

* False promise - that BPL will provide high-speed Internet access for rural customers. BPL has the shortest range of any technology, requiring a repeater approximately every 700 feet. By comparison, a DSL customer can be up to 18,000 feet from a DSLAM, but this 18,000-foot limit has limited the market penetration of DSL. How successful can BPL be with a 700-foot limit between repeaters? To run BPL out to rural customers is economically unfeasible. BPL can only be a commercial success in metropolitan areas, where the customers are available within short distances. Rural customers? Forget it.

* Funded by ? Electric power companies will fund their attempts to become Internet service providers through rate increases. Their ability to effectively tax every family within a geographic area to fund their projects is unfair to consumers and to the competitive marketplace. And what would ratepayers be funding? Technology limited in reach and limited in its future by bandwidth and power constraints.

* Collateral damage? BPL will also generate horrific radio interference, because power lines are poor RF transmission lines. They radiate energy just like an antenna. The radiation of RF energy resulting from applying broadband transmissions to power lines will effect both broadcast and point-to-point radio communications, including emergency services, all the way up and down the radio spectrum.

* The truth - BPL will benefit rural customers *the least*.

* Power companies fund marginal endeavors from the pockets of ratepayers.

* BPL should be restricted to underground cables.

* Monitor BPL closely for radio interference.