

BPL is an abject fiasco. ARRL testing has proven that the noise levels in areas affected by BPL render most of the HF spectrum unusable to licensed services. Since this will literally place thousands of wide banded signals all over the HF spectrum, BPL is a complete disaster waiting to happen. The HF noise level will increase world wide due to propagation (just ask any QRP CW operator if he can make contacts world wide on milliwatts) causing global interference. Military, Amateur, Government, Commercial, Aviation and Emergency communication systems will be rendered unusable. The Chi-Coms, N. Korea, Iran and Bin Laden are drooling over this one.

Also, it is unacceptable to place the burden of resolution on licensed RF users and not the BPL providers. The BPL providers are not licensed entities; hence, it will be impossible to control or impose operating restrictions, much less attempt any enforcement actions. There are just too many loopholes in the plan, as it now exists. Once again the little guy, the small business owner, the airman, the soldier, the FEMA worker, and the amateur radio operator take it on the chin in favor of the big power companies and big technology.

One must question the logic and wisdom in placing yet another service on the nation's dilapidated power grid. The power companies can barely maintain electrical service on these lines. Just look at last year's blackouts. Do you really think these crews can maintain yet more equipment, plus keep the RF equipment operating within specifications?

Finally, BPL is a highly inefficient technology that is already obsolete. Fiber optics are routed to within a couple of miles of the users and then the digital signal is broadcast over the power lines (a longwise antenna). The miles of fiber optics and signal generation/amplification needed to pull off this stunt destroys the argument of "providing low cost internet to the poor rural subscribers". Satellite and wireless Internet services are available nationwide at competitive costs with a higher level of service and better dependability. In a nutshell, BPL is one of the worst ideas in the long sad history of bad ideas. Thank You.