

I am strongly torn several ways over the BPL proposals.

1. I live in a rural area of Pennsylvania without current broadband internet access -- too far from phone switching equipment for DSL, and the nearest cable TV access is several miles away. BPL, if a vendor found it feasible to install the needed infrastructure, might help us by providing broadband capability for us and our neighbors.
2. Television reception at my home is poor -- we are less than 20 miles from Binghamton, NY television transmitters, but our best reception comes from Scranton-Wilkes Barre, PA, about 60 miles away. We use Dish Network satellite services to have tolerable reception.
3. A benefit of our rural site is its relative quiet (from an RF noise perspective. This is beneficial for my amateur radio facilities.
4. A three-phase power distribution line (4.4 KV? I really don't know) runs in a power line right-of-way about 500 feet to the south of our home. If BPL signals are added to this facility, will I notice the increase in noise floor, reducing my ability to receive weak signals on HF and VHF? The current information available does not make this clear. I would hate to find out that I was unable to continue to provide emergency communications for our community. I regularly communicate with others at distances of 1000 miles using Single-Sideband voice in the 3.8 MHz frequency range, using 100-150 watts of power. This is often difficult. Will BPL reduce the effectiveness of these emergency training transmissions?
5. If BPL interference is significant, it will lessen my ability to receive short wave and standard broadcast radio.
6. I know that radiation from a point source decreases as the square of the distance from that source, but from a line source, the radiation intensity decreases linearly. In others' environments, in more dense power line areas (normal suburban environments), it might be better considered as a plane source. If the power line in my area behaves as a line source, my ability to relocate my HF and VHF antennas to reduce the effect of BPL radiation will be less effective.

Thanks for your consideration

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