

There are a variety of good ways to provide widespread broadband communication, but BPL is not one of them. BPL as it is currently proposed has been shown to interfere with high frequency amateur radio communications and would surely interfere with CAP, government, broadcasters, and other users of the high frequency radio spectrum.

It has been shown that communications over thousands of miles can be accomplished with just a few milliwatts of radiated energy in that RF spectrum. It does not take a long stretch of the imagination to see that an industry that has trouble containing radiated noise from 60 Hz powerlines would certainly have worse luck containing unwanted emissions in the HF bands from powerlines that are not designed for or properly suited to the non-radiating transfer of RF energy.

When people first started transmitting radio waves, they used spark gap transmitters. Those were eventually banned because they emitted a broad spectrum of noise and harmonics. They were replaced by vacuum tubes and then by semiconductors for generating a more pure form of RF energy. This is genuine technological improvement to facilitate more users in the RF spectrum.

The only advantage that BPL has over its competition is that it is cheap, but that has seldom been the only redeeming feature of a technological implementation that has such high potential to interfere with licensed spectrum users.