

In these trying times where terrorism surrounds us, it is absolutely imperative that we have a strong communications infrastructure in place. As we learned during the tragedy of 9/11, existing terrestrial modes of communication such as commercial radio and cell phones had limited use that day as the TV towers were either destroyed and the cell towers were overloaded.

Amateur radio does not have that problem. Get a radio, find a battery, put up an antenna and you are on the air saving lives and communicating much needed info during a crisis. It will always get messages through.

If BPL technology is enabled to higher power levels, amateur radio will not be able to save lives. The frequencies which we operate will be rendered useless. The same is true of FEMA. And the Red Cross. And small Police departments around the country. None of these agencies will be able to communicate emergency messages.

Please do not approve BPL to make utility companies rich. Let's let amateur radio operators do what they do best - save lives.