

Broadband Over Power Lines Comments

I have been made aware that it is possible to have Access BPL without the harmful interference that is apparently about to occur with Access BPL using the HF and Low VHF Spectrum. I understand this is possible by using frequencies high enough and with equipment that is already available. One is Home Plug, which notches vital FEMA, Amateur and Military frequencies. The other simply uses frequencies in the gigahertz range and as I understand it has been developed by a California firm.

As I have read your rule making proposals, they appear to require BPL providers to protect existing and licensed spectrum users. However one report I have read says they are declaring their systems in compliance when they simply are not. Besides, it appears that much needs to be done to develop this technology so that it will work in harmony with existing radio services before it enjoys wide deployment.

Common sense would seem simply to say, get it right the first time. Only narrow self-interest will be served by rushing to deploy these systems while destroying the use of so much radio spectrum.

When the safety of lives and property are on the line it is then too late to begin trying to undo the harm that is about to take place or has taken place. As I am sure you are well aware of there exists a vast network of trained radio operators, expensive equipment and ongoing traffic and emergency communications networks. None of this can be easily or quickly replaced when needed and certainly nothing else could come close to working as well as what we have in our country today in these types of services. And, all of these services still are available to the American public totally without monetary cost.

If BPL can indeed bring the benefits it is touted to bring then why not do it so that it only benefits everyone. Truly enforce your proposed rules on a seven day twenty four hour basis, providing near instant relief for complaints and severe, enforced penalties for violations. Do not accept legalese based excuses for failure to comply with the rules and regulations.

My comments are intended to be brief. They are supported by many expert engineering studies you are already aware of, ARRL, NTIA etc. I certainly want to support their work the work of the FCC and the work of countless radio operators that stand ready to assist this country in times of need. I suppose a final question could be: If means already exist to remedy all or most of these interference problems, why not just simply require their use?

Thank You,

Lawrence Lea