

Dear Sirs,

the issue of BPL is a very serious one, since this technology threatens the useability of the whole HF spectrum for several communications services. Even though the industry is claiming that harmful interference would be avoided, the interference caused by BPL will most likely be on a level that will render some services useless, because of the low-signal characteristics of the communication.

The major point that I'd like to point out is that BPL will only be a temporary phenomenon. Who is using a 14.4k dial-up modem today as we did ten years ago? BPL offers a limited bandwidth only, and it will probably be obsolete in ten or fifteen years, since the demand for bandwidth cannot be covered by BPL anymore. By then, optical links or high-bandwidth radio links in the GHz range will have taken over. However, if current valuable services on shortwave are affected by the interference from BPL for ten or fifteen years, some of these might cease to exist.

Please consider if it is worth sacrificing radio services that have served the public well for decades in situations of emergencies, in education, for raising technical interest amongst young people, etc. for the sake of a temporary business model which will undoubtedly be succeeded by a more powerful technology outside of the shortwave spectrum.

Yours sincerely,

Ulrich Ann