

BPL/PLC will have a detrimental effect on amateur radio communications nationwide but it will have a near fatal effect on communications in rural areas. In many instances, cell phone coverage, or normal land-line communications are not available. In many cases, amateur radio is the only life line in and out of these areas. The ability of providing emergency life saving communications will be diminished. The commission must remember that amateur radio is a national resource and that it has aided in many national emergencies recently including September 11, 2001, the major power outage in the northeast, and various hurricanes such as Hurricane Floyd that devastated eastern North Carolina in 1999. Please consider these instances when planning for this BPL deployment.