

4/27/2004

To The Commission,

I am writing to express my concern that because power lines are not designed to prevent radiation of RF energy, BPL represents a significant potential interference source for all radio services using this frequency range, including the Amateur Radio Service. Overhead electrical power lines and residential wiring act as antennas that unintentionally radiate the broadband signals as radio signals throughout entire neighborhoods and along roadsides. Interference has been observed nearly one mile from the nearest BPL source.

Furthermore, although BPL proponents dispute these claims of interference to licensed services, they have provided little in the way of calculations or measurements of BPL radiation levels. Until now, BPL systems have been limited to small, little-publicized test areas. Even so, the number of complaints of actual interference is growing steadily and efforts to resolve them have had limited success.

Others at risk

- The "short waves" - the only part of the radio spectrum that supports long-distance, intercontinental radio communication. The short waves are used for international broadcasting, aeronautical, maritime, disaster relief, and other services including the military.
- The "low-band VHF" frequency range that is heavily used by volunteer fire departments, police, and other first responders.
- Depending on their distance from a BPL system, some public safety and federal government radio systems could receive harmful interference.

In your deliberations, please keep in mind that the BPL industry needs to be held to the strictest standards for eliminating radio frequency interference.

Sincerely,

Nicholas J. Magliano