

I am against allowing BPL (Broadband Over Power Lines) because of the many instances where it interferes with the Amateur Radio Service and is subject to interference from the same. I wonder about allowing a service to start when there are already observed problems that have not been addressed and the interference abated.

With the rapid spread of Digital Subscriber Lines and Cable Internet using an existing infrastructure without these problems, the need for BPL is questionable. DSL and Cable avoid the interference problems.

BPL will bring its signal and the attendant problems everywhere, not just where the service is desired. This means that its presence in my area where DSL and Cable provide service will bring a new source of interference for us. It will also create a situation wherein my properly operated Amateur Radio Service equipment can cause interference that is currently allowable to everyday citizens who may not understand that they would have to tolerate this interference with the new service. My operation could be seen as a single point of a problem that exists because of what a large, general entity does poorly. I feel sure that the complaints would be made to me to remedy instead of to the power company, who creates the problem.

I have borne the brunt of these complaints in the past concerning interference to cable television when the cable service had installed defective equipment. The individual expected me to correct the problem that was rightfully the responsibility of the cable company.

Moreover, there is the likelihood that the interference from BPL will cause interference to my operation. This has been observed in BPL interfering with Amateur stations. Again, the creation of a problem that does not currently exist. Generating BPL signals throughout a power system will create a vast area of maintenance for the power company. The power company will now be faced with managing the BPL service over equipment originally designed and intended to transmit electric power.

The power company will also quickly inherit a system to receive interference far beyond the specific paths to the customers. All around me, thousands of feet of conductive wiring will take on the role of receiving antennas to create an avenue for any interference from the Amateur Service to feed into the BPL signal. In the extreme, we must consider how the BPL service will tie into many residential and commercial locations with all manner of poorly installed electric service to exacerbate these problem.

I feel that there are many problems with the deployment of BPL. These problems have not been solved, and may well be under-appreciated. I am against the deployment of Broadband over Power Lines.