

As amateur radio operators we all should know & understand that here on the planet earth we enjoy a unique phenomena, that radio signals of certain frequencys will bounce off of the ionosphere and be able to be received at far distances from line of sight. These certain frequencies are in the HF (below 30MHz) region. BPL will use HF signals to transmit the data over the power lines. We also should know that if one were to transmit HF signals into wires or aluminum radiators, even of low power strength, called QRP to us, these signals will leave the wire and travel magically up and bounce off the ionosphere. These phenoma are real; electromagnetic theory and equations are well understood. One can actually predict that this will occur and then measure for it. IF you carefully read the FCC's NPRM and all the BPL Providers' statements, they all postulate or theorize that there will be no interference but if you took any advanced high school or college physics classes, you would have learned about electromagnetism. Therein lies the basic problem with BPL; BPL's HF signals will leave the wires and radiate all over, even to long distances. There are a couple of companies in Australia, I believe, that are attempting to do BPL but with UHF signals. This to me has much merit. UHF signals do not bounce off the ionosphere. So if BPL must be implemented, then we would ask the FCC to abandon the use of HF and go to UHF. Also, we would ask the FCC to require the BPL providers to measure their signals themselves in the HF frequencies and determine if there is interference and correct that on their own. Why do we, as licensed ops, need to tell them if they are causing interference. The BPL providers can purchase HF receivers or use a spectrum analyzer to determine this for themselves.