

To the FCC:

I am communications officer for a Civil Air Patrol (CAP) squadron based at Palwaukee Airport in Illinois. In that position I am responsible for and operate HF transceivers on numerous government authorized frequencies between 4 and 28 MHz. I am also a member of the SHARES communications system, a national network of state, local and federal government agencies with HF communications capability.

I have also been employed professionally in the communications industry for almost 50 years.

Based on my professional experience and knowledge I am convinced that implementation of broadband over powerlines (BPL) will pose a serious threat to both CAP's designated missions and national security for the following reasons:

1. CAP's prime mission is search and rescue (SAR). On wide area searches we must depend on HF communications to coordinate our ground team efforts for both efficiency and safety reasons. The levels of interference to HF communications already demonstrated from BPL would seriously degrade if not destroy our HF capability in areas where it is in operation, and possible nationally via propagation. One need only read the just released first report of the NTIA on BPL to understand the potential magnitude of this problem!

2. The SHARES system is a nationwide multi-agency communications network that has been developed to provide vital communications capability should a natural or terrorist disaster occur. It employs 10 primary frequencies between 4 and 18 MHz, with a number of additional secondary frequencies between 3 and 21 MHz also available on a secondary basis. In time of grave national communications crisis it is likely that many if not all of these frequencies would be in use. BPL would seriously impede the ability of this network to function, not only during such a crises but because employment of BPL would have previously impeded development of the SHARES during practice and operational drill sessions. The previously mentioned NTIA BPL report surely emphasizes the magnitude of this problem to all HF communicators!

For the above reasons I respectfully request the Commission delay further implementation of BPL until the true extent of its potential for interference to HF users is determined.

Thank you for your consideration.

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