There seems to be little question that there are serious and unresolvable interference issues involved with BPL (e.g. shortwave, HF HAM, etc). Wouldn't it make more sense to open up some spectrum in the 1-10 GHz range for low-cost licensing?

My own ISP uses a 5 GHz 802.11a radio backbone (unlicensed) with directional antennas. It does this at the very real risk of interference because it is the only cost-effective solution.

Adequate, cheaply licensable low-power microwave spectrum would allow true competition in the broadband market with plentiful bandwidth. By using directional antennas the same spectrum can be used by multiple companies in the same market.

Why waste the precious ionosphere guided waves under 50 MHz on an inefficient, low bandwidth, interference prone system when GHz band spectrum can solve the same problems far more efficiently and effectively?