

As a licensed amateur radio operator, I am very concerned with the proposed implementation of broadband services over existing power lines (BPL), and its potential for interference to short wave radio communications.

Interference has been documented at test sites throughout the country and overseas where BPL is in operation. Recordings of actual interference at several test sites are available at www.arrl.org/bpl.

The Amateur Radio Service cannot maintain its emergency networks if BPL is deployed and interferes with weak radio signals. In addition to amateur operation, BPL interference also could wipe out radio communication for many of our nation's First Responders. Many police, fire, and emergency medical personnel using low-band VHF radios operating in the 30-50 MHz range would be affected by BPL noise.

There are ways to deliver broadband that do not pollute the radio spectrum as BPL does, including fiber-to-the-home, cable, DSL, and Broadband Wireless Access. None of these technologies causes interference to short wave radio.

BPL has a major disadvantage (RFI) that is not shared by other broadband technologies. That alone outweighs whatever benefit it may offer.