

Dear Sirs,

I have been an amateur since I was age 11. I am now age 42. I have watched and participated in the growth of our hobby from both technical and political perspectives. My favorite mode of operation is HF CW. I also run a Winlink 2000 PMBO, so I more than keep up with the state-of-the-art as far as digital communication is concerned. During this time, power line noise has always been the consistent and most prominent source of HF noise in the spectrum. Working with a power company to "fix" their noise sources is not a pleasant task, nor is it usually successful. Just check with Riley Hollingsworth and see how many pending enforcement cases involve power companies or their distributors. Please do not support a technology that has been shown and demonstrated to cause harmful interference to the HF RF spectrum. As of yet, I have not seen even one single positive study that suggests that the BPL technology can coexist with other means of communication in the HF spectrum. So called notch filters are supposed to work to ensure that "those that complain" are to be taken-care-of. Why is the FCC interested in enacting and supporting a technology that everyone has admitted causes harmful interference? If you don't complain then the interference doesn't exist? What happens during emergencies and many new stations and frequencies that are not "notched" come into use and are needed? I live out of the city limits and currently have a subscription to a broadband wireless company for my internet access. There is a new satellite company that is supposed to be coming online sometime in June 2004. Those are just 2 viable alternatives that will not cause interference problems to those that live nearby. Surely there is better technology out there than that used to send signals over unshielded wires that pollute the spectrum, just as smog pollutes the atmosphere? This is just good ole common sense, in a physics sort of way. If you don't want to cause interference (or be susceptible to it), make sure it is shielded. I have a feeling, that since I hold an FCC license to operate on the amateur HF frequencies, and the power company does not, and the BPL measure is approved for general use, no one near my location will probably be able to make us of this so-called "technological breakthrough", since my HF station is in consistent operation. If I have learned one thing as a licensed amateur radio operator for 20 years, it is to not use unshielded cable if you do not intend to transmit. Please evaluate BPL based on scientific principle and the potential for longterm damages vs. the short time money interests and arrive at the conclusion that BPL is not quite ready for primetime.

Sincerely,

Jonathan E. Brown
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