

As a professional engineer with experience working with public safety low band radio systems, I am concerned about the interference potential posed by BPL systems. Unlike amateur radio operators and government users of HF bands, public safety systems operating in the VHF low band range use FM modulation. So unlike amateur radio operators who see a signal level on a meter and can detect interference, public safety users only experience a lack of communication and a reduction in range. VHF low band is used by law enforcement and highway maintenance in many rural areas. These are the same areas where BPL has the greatest potential to provide Internet service. There are many other options for providing Internet service in these areas including transmission using UHF, microwave frequencies and satellite systems. These options do not provide the risk to public safety communications.