

The deployment of BPL and PLC across the HF and VHF spectrum carries with it a threat of air wave pollution. Allowing Part 15 of the existing FCC rules to be weakened to allow BPL providers and unlicensed users access to this spectrum is wrong.

In Field tests BPL interference to amateur radio signals was found to be objectionable to fixed and mobile communications. The remedy was to “notch” the offending interference. I use and enjoy the entire HF and VHF spectrum as an avid licensed Amateur Radio operator and short wave listener. How will the power companies and BPL providers notch all interference if that is the only spectrum they have.

The local Utility in Westchester NY is using the new BPL spectrum for PLC monitoring. This is interesting since PLC is already used on VLF in this same area for the same purpose. PLC users recently fought vigorously to deny Amateur Radio low power use of VLF as it would interfere with PLC. Why then do they think PLC can coexist with Amateur radio on HF and VHF when amateur radio signals are much stronger here. Is reduction of amateur privileges next in order to accommodate BPL?

Power companies are loath to fix power line interference problems now. What makes you think they or the BPL providers will make a bigger effort after BPL is deployed?

Propagation issues are also a large concern. The spectrum at issue is prone to long distance propagation and the use of BPL will travel much farther than intended causing interference beyond our US borders at times. I don't think this issue has been looked at in detail.

Allowing power companies and BPL providers access to this spectrum is allowing them to interfere with licensed users and those that use parts of this spectrum for business, public safety and entertainment. This is just plain wrong. BPL holds no great promise. Undeserved communities now will continue to be undeserved. The existence of power lines will not mean internet service will be available. Providers will still have to purchase and install all of the necessary equipment in each area they wish to serve. If the population is low, income to providers will be low and investment in that equipment will not take place. Simple economics.

The give away of the HF and VHF spectrum to BPL is a wholesale disservice to the American people.

Yours Truly,

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