

While the idea of providing more avenues for broad band access is very admirable, the concept of using open transmission lines and radio frequency energy would seem problematic at best. The transmission lines will also have the characteristics of antennae and serve to "broadcast" these transmissions.

This raises two serious concerns: One of which must be the privacy of the communications. It would certainly be a fairly simple task to intercept, and even tamper with, legitimate email and other Internet type communications.

A larger problem is the probability of significantly interfering with existing RF communications that do not have the luxury of employing wired connections. This will have a serious and detrimental effect on whatever frequency bands may be allocated for this service.

The only solution would be a requirement that any such communications would require the shielding of the power grid such that such interference did not occur. This is a task unlikely to be economically feasible.

The idea should only be pursued if frequencies associated with broadcast services are used for such communications. This would at least put the interference in an area of the spectrum where the transmitters are local and have sufficient power to overcome low levels of "leakage" of unwanted energy.