

Dear Kathleen,

Please consider changing FCC rules to allow only microwave frequencies to carry Internet data on Broadband over Power Line service. Employed as a marine electronics technician, and one who has contributed to amateur radio public service, I have an appreciation for the preservation of 3-30 Mhz spectrum. Not restricting the use of this spectrum from BPL could adversely affect shore as well as seagoing radio reception, and endanger human life.

The communications capabilities of sea-going vessels vary. Not everyone that takes a boat to sea can afford a satellite phone which uses UHF or SHF frequencies immune from HF BPL noise. At sea, and in the air, HF and VHF are relied upon for emergencies. There are several HF and VHF frequencies dedicated to distress calls. Random interference from Broadband over Power Line transmissions could block a cry for help. It has also been shown that 100 watts of HF power from other services can degrade BPL performance, disrupting Internet connectivity.

Alternative BPL systems have been developed that use microwave frequencies and have a low interference potential at HF/VHF frequencies. Microwave frequencies do not have a tendency to radiate omnidirectionally for hundreds of miles (or thousands) as HF frequencies do. In addition to low interference, data throughput is higher on microwave frequencies, improving service capability and satisfaction. I believe microwave BPL may very well be a win-win situation for all wireless users. Please consider changing FCC rules to allow BPL only at frequencies at 2 gigahertz and above.