

I have provided public service communications via Amateur Radio for over thirty years. I hold the appointments of EC and RACES radio officer for Kalamazoo County.

My main concerns are interference to Amateur Radio frequencies by both power line noise, and by microprocessor noise. I have had emergency communications impeded by both. Unlike cable television providers, power line companies do not monitor their equipment for harmful interference. Some do not even have sufficient expertise to locate and repair the problems when brought to their attention. I have witnessed power line noise cause serious interference to communications well into the VHF spectrum.

Microprocessor noise in the home and office environment not only disrupts SKYWARN communications via Amateur Radio, but NOAA Weather Radio as well. In many locations NWR receivers are useless due to interference from poorly designed or poorly shielded computer and network devices. I have watched this problem worsen over the last 20 years.