



# ***FCC Update***

# **Broadband over Power Line**

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# Benefits of Access BPL

- Added competition in the broadband market
- Internet and high-speed broadband access to rural and underserved areas
- Wider choice of broadband suppliers for all consumers
- Effective management tool for electric utility distribution networks



# Broadband Over Power Line

- Notice of Inquiry – April 2003
  - Over 5000 comments filed
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) – February 2004
  - Comments: May 3, 2004
  - Replies due: June 1, 2004



# NPRM Proposals

- Access BPL must operate under the non-interference guidelines of Part 15
- Makes no change to existing unlicensed (Part 15) emission requirements for Access BPL



# NPRM Proposals

- Access BPL must employ adaptive interference mitigation techniques
  - Reduce power levels on a dynamic or remote-controlled basis
  - Exclude specific operating frequencies or bands
- Avoid localized and site-specific interference



# NPRM Proposals

- Establish a publicly accessible database for Access BPL (location, type of modulation, frequency bands) for timely interference mitigation and avoidance measures
- Adopt specific measurement guidelines for Access BPL



# NPRM Proposals

- Clarify principles used to test other Carrier Current Systems (CCS) operating under Part 15
- Ensure that emission measurements for these systems are made in a consistent manner and with repeatable results
- Aid in evaluating interference causes and selecting the appropriate interference mitigation measures.



# GOALS

- Remove regulatory uncertainty
- Promote development of Access BPL technology
- Ensure that existing licensed operations are protected
- Compliance measurements made in a consistent manner with repeatable results



# Recent Activities

- **President's Broadband Initiative**
  - **Universal, affordable access for broadband technology by 2007**
  - **Enable deployment of BPL**
- **NTIA Technical Report**
  - **Largely tracks FCC NPRM proposals**
  - **“Exceptional” protection of certain frequencies**
  - **Measurement issues**

