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(Today's Date), 2006

U.S. Representative (First & Last Name)
(Washington, DC office address)

Dear Representative (Last Name):

As one of more than (Number) federally licensed amateur radio operators in the (State) (Number) Congressional District, I ask you to join your colleagues who have co-sponsored **House Resolution 230**. This resolution urges the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the potential of broadband over power line (BPL) systems to interfere with amateur radio, public safety, and other licensed radio services.

BPL utilizes electric power lines to serve as the conductors of the broadband signals. Unfortunately, because the power lines are not shielded, they also act as antennas and radiate the signals into the air. These radiated signals will interfere with radio receivers tuned to the same frequency range. BPL has only been deployed to a very limited extent, but the Amateur Radio Service is already experiencing severe BPL interference that the FCC has been unable or unwilling to correct. Unlike BPL, other methods of providing broadband Internet services to consumers, such as Cable TV, DSL, microwave wireless and optical fiber to the home, do not pollute the radio spectrum.

The FCC continues to resist growing evidence that its rules are inadequate to protect radio communication systems, including those used by First Responders, from radio spectrum pollution caused by BPL systems. The FCC needs to objectively and carefully review this evidence and adopt rules that will at least keep interference from BPL within reasonable bounds. Unfortunately, not only has the FCC shown no inclination to do this, the agency is even failing to enforce its rules in specific instances where harmful interference is documented such as in Manassas, Virginia and Briarcliff Manor, New York.

Because we need no third party infrastructure in order to communicate, the Amateur Radio Service is the only 100 percent fail-safe emergency communication capability in the world. It's well-known that the first two days of helicopter and boat rescue operations after Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans would have been virtually impossible without amateur radio communications as all the other communications systems in that area were out of service. Interference from BPL emissions will significantly disrupt this capability. **Please co-sponsor House Resolution 230 as soon as possible** to express your concern over the interference potential of BPL to Amateur Radio operators and to public safety licensees.

The Department of Homeland Security has already demonstrated its belief in our Amateur Radio Service emergency communications abilities by awarding the ARRL a large three year grant that was used to train thousands of amateur radio operators to provide more efficient emergency communications. In its recent rulings, the FCC appears to be taking a different view.

Sincerely,
(Signature)
(Name, Address & Contact Information)

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Central Division ARRL Members & FCC Licensees By Congressional Districts

| State | District | Members | Licensees |
|-------|----------|---------|-----------|
| IL | 01 | 80 | 334 |
| IL | 02 | 88 | 490 |
| IL | 03 | 216 | 783 |
| IL | 04 | 37 | 206 |
| IL | 05 | 131 | 551 |
| IL | 06 | 291 | 1227 |
| IL | 07 | 90 | 302 |
| IL | 08 | 440 | 1599 |
| IL | 09 | 211 | 861 |
| IL | 10 | 363 | 1329 |
| IL | 11 | 299 | 1054 |
| IL | 12 | 255 | 1294 |
| IL | 13 | 382 | 1281 |
| IL | 14 | 346 | 1374 |
| IL | 15 | 324 | 1409 |
| IL | 16 | 415 | 1464 |
| IL | 17 | 277 | 1347 |
| IL | 18 | 331 | 1531 |
| IL | 19 | 338 | 1769 |
| State | District | Members | Licensees |
| IN | 01 | 224 | 1086 |
| IN | 02 | 281 | 1492 |
| IN | 03 | 395 | 1690 |
| IN | 04 | 352 | 1632 |
| IN | 05 | 495 | 2050 |
| IN | 06 | 310 | 1442 |
| IN | 07 | 186 | 905 |
| IN | 08 | 275 | 1495 |
| IN | 09 | 255 | 1279 |
| State | District | Members | Licensees |
| WI | 01 | 329 | 1284 |
| WI | 02 | 345 | 1266 |
| WI | 03 | 278 | 1216 |
| WI | 04 | 149 | 702 |
| WI | 05 | 341 | 1365 |
| WI | 06 | 283 | 1085 |
| WI | 07 | 323 | 1444 |
| WI | 08 | 284 | 1045 |

Hamfest Visits & Meetings

As of the publication of this newsletter issue, here is my ARRL travel schedule for the first three months of 2006. It is subject to change if required ARRL meeting dates are changed or there are last minute transportation problems.

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|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Mar 11 | ARRL Executive Committee Mtg | St. Louis, MO |
| Mar 31-Apr 1 | AES Superfest | Milwaukee, WI |
| May 18-21 | Dayton Hamvention - ARRL Expo | Dayton, OH |

I hope to see many of you at these hamfests. In addition to shopping for new and used equipment, they are a great way to renew and develop friendships and to meet some of the voices you have heard on your radios.

73 - George R. (Dick) Isely, W9GIG
Central Division Director