



January 18, 2005

Proposed Broadband over Power Line (BPL)

Test Trial in Houston Texas

Integration and Test Trial Deployment By: **IDACOMM**

Energy Utility Company: **CenterPoint Energy**

BPL Product Manufacturer: **Mitsubishi Electric**

RE: Answers to the required questions on FCC form 442, section #7 describing in detail the following items:

- a. The complete program of research and experimentation proposed including description of equipment and theory of operation.**

Answer:

IDACOMM and CenterPoint Energy have agreed to jointly deploy a BPL test trial in the area of Bellaire, a community within the city of Houston, Texas. For this trial, IDACOMM will use a product manufactured by Mitsubishi Electric which incorporates the DS2 chipset and uses Power Line Carrier (PLC) radio frequencies to transmit over power lines. An area has been identified with 150 homes in the Bellaire area that covers approximately ½ square mile radius around geographical coordinates; N 29.7326, E -95.4477

BPL is being tested today across the US. IDACOMM has several ongoing test trials in Boise, Idaho, and it is our intention to develop a full utility wide deployment plan for CenterPoint Energy after successful completion of this test trial in Houston.

- b. The specific objectives sought to be accomplished.**

IDACOMM intends to trial Mitsubishi's BPL product to establish system functionality and viability for full scale deployment. Customer Participants will be solicited to take part in the trial free of charge for the trial period and operational testing will be performed to measure specific parameters according our test plan matrix. The objective is to measure system reliability, quality of service, and scalability across the power grid.

- c. How the program of experimentation has a reasonable promise of contribution to the development, extension, expansion or utilization of the radio art, or is along line not already investigated.**

BPL has been identified by FCC chairman, Michael K. Powell as having;

“The potential to provide consumers with a ubiquitous third broadband pipe to the home” and “Broadband over power lines is at the cutting edge of this dramatic digital migration that will continue to free applications (e.g., voice, data, and video) from the regulatory and technological shackles that have tied them to specific platforms (e.g., voice to copper and video to coaxial cable)”.

Mitsubishi Electric is an established provider of products and services to many of the world's energy utility companies, and has joined the industry to produce and manufacture technology to implement BPL.