



16th December, 2014

Sent via Email to: Comments@westdorset-weymouth.gov.uk

From: Eileen O'Connor - Email address: eileen@radiationresearch.org

Planning Application WD/D/14/002423 - Installation of 20m MIP telecommunications mast, ground based cabinets and ancillary development (Full) at East Farm, Abbotsbury

Residents of Abbotsbury have contacted the Radiation Research Trust due to a fear that the effects of the electromagnetic radiation emitted from this installation will adversely affect their health and that of their families.

I am the Director for the UK Radiation Research Trust: www.radiationresearch.org Founder and Board member for the International EMF Alliance <http://www.iemfa.org> and member for the EU Commission Stakeholder Dialogue Group on EMF:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/electromagnetic_fields/eu_actions/stakeholder_dialogue_group/index_en.htm

Local planning officers and councillors are given an unenviable task in taking front line decisions with regards to giving consent for planning applications for phone masts while under pressure from Government and lobbying of the phone industry to put the economy before public health. I am therefore pleading with you to reject all applications in favour of public health. I trust you will not treat this phone mast application as a box ticking exercise as many people in the village of Abbotsbury are relying on your decision. This decision should not be taken lightly.

I have been involved with this campaign since developing breast cancer at the age of 38 after living 100m from the Wishaw phone mast for seven years. I discovered the cancer cluster in our village along with a catalogue of illness surrounding the mast in 2001 and have since campaigned for the last thirteen years presenting and given evidence at local and national and International levels in the UK and European Parliaments and at the EU Commission. Download presentations here:

<http://www.radiationresearch.org/aboutus/eileen-o-connor-director-for-rrt-presentations-and-talks>

Residents in Wishaw engaged with T-Mobile in 2002 the search for the truth in science while pleading for their lives and for T-Mobile to remove the phone mast after the discovering the cancer cluster. T-Mobile shamefully highlighted the Stewart report claiming the mast was operating within safety guidelines, while totally ignoring their own report commissioned by T-Mobile in 2000. The ECOLOG report of over 220 peer-reviewed and published papers found evidence for adverse effects on central nervous system, cancer initiating and promoting effects, Impairments of certain brain functions, loss of memory and cognitive function.

Ecolog called for an immediate downward regulation for the ICNIRP guidelines. This study, profound in its conclusions of harm, was not circulated and remained only available in German until discovered and translated by HESE UK many years later and was hidden to residents in Wishaw as we desperately sought answers for the cancer cluster in our village. I have since discovered that the Wishaw cancer cluster was not alone, there are many other cancer clusters surrounding masts.

The grounds of the objection on behalf of the UK Radiation Research Trust are:

There is a very significant body of research published reinforcing the hypothesis that mobile phone mast emissions are detrimental to health demonstrating that radiation exposures set within the current thermal ICNIRP guidelines can increase the probability of developing diseases following long term exposures, mainly cancer, tumours, and genetic damage.

Ten epidemiological studies that assessed for health effects of mobile phone base stations. Seven of these studies explored the association between base station proximity and neurobehavioral effects and three investigated cancer. Eight of the 10 studies reported increased prevalence of adverse neurobehavioral symptoms or cancer in populations living at distances 500 meters from base stations.

Many doctors and scientists worldwide believe there is a very real and significant risk to the general health of the public, wildlife and the environment. This includes an international working group of scientists, researchers and public health policy professionals (The BioInitiative Working Group) This Report has been prepared by 29 authors from ten countries, ten holding medical degrees (MDs), 21 PhDs, and three MSc, MA or MPHs. Among the authors are three former presidents of the Bioelectromagnetics Society, and five full members of BEMS.

The BioInitiative Working Group has reviewed 1000's of peer reviewed scientific papers: <http://www.bioinitiative.org> . This group of researchers highlights the fact that Bioeffects are clearly established to occur with very low exposure levels of (non-thermal levels) to electromagnetic fields and radiofrequency radiation exposures. The report calls for the precautionary approach and urgent action due to chronic EMF-related diseases that are a potential risk for everyone. These diseases include adverse effects on the central nervous system, cancer initiating and promoting effects, impairments of certain brain functions, loss of memory and cognitive function and infertility and immune dysfunction.

In May 2011 the World Health Organization's cancer committee, IARC, voted to classify the RF - EMF Spectrum as a 2B or "possible human carcinogen" for the entire spectrum and therefore firmly falls into the proper application of the Precautionary Principle as defined in various European Commission documents. It is therefore not ethical or acceptable to promote or offer claims of safety for risky technology to the public.

Many scientists including the Hardell Group from Sweden led by oncologist Dr. Lennart Hardell have since published more studies – and are now calling for an urgent upgrading of the classification of RF - EMF from 2B to Group 1 – This would be in the same carcinogenic category as tobacco and asbestos.

Dr Hardell himself has stated “the agent is carcinogenic to humans and urgent revision of current guidelines for exposure is needed for the entire spectrum.”

In particular the Radiation Research Trust is concerned about the continuing potential health risk from mobile phone mast emissions and the risks of developing electrosensitivity (ES). ES is often described as RF radiation sickness. Many people though out the world are now suffering with this disabling condition. In Sweden (EHS) is an officially fully recognised functional impairment. It is not a disease; people are suffering due to environmental exposure to electromagnetic radiation. These waves can cause headaches, fatigue, anxiety, sleep problems, nausea and depression. Many people 'burnout' and become Electro-Hypersensitive (EHS) from the constant effects of mobile phones, mobile phone masts, Wi-Fi, Wimax exposure at their place of work, home or school. Studies have shown that microwaves affect hormone levels and can break down the blood brain barrier. Electro-hypersensitive people are like canaries in a coal mine who feel the effects. ES people could be alerting the public to a public health disaster.

ES victims are often unable to use their talents and capabilities to earn a living through denial of access to transport and places most people take for granted. With other forms of disability, society has taken the view that such a situation is unacceptable and as legislated to ensure equal access and equal opportunity. What sort of society are we living in today by encouraging the proliferation of wireless devices? Society has created an invisible under-class who are denied the opportunities available to everyone else. It is offensive, inhumane and wholly unacceptable to allow this sort of discrimination. It goes against the The UN 22 Standard Rules on the Equalisation of Opportunities for People with Disabilities – since 2007 upgraded into The UN Convention on Human Rights for Persons with Functional Impairments, <http://www.un.org>.

The Radiation Research Trust are very concerned for the health of children and are astounded to hear that MIP Telecommunications are appealing for a mast to provide a service for the young population to stay connected at all times claiming that mobile devices are their main or only means of accessing popular social network sites. This claim is a total contradiction to in the official Government and Department Health advice for children.

Advice from the UK Department of health says:

“We need more research to look at the situation, particularly in the long term. The body and nervous system are still developing into the teenage years. Therefore, as a precaution, the UK Chief Medical Officers advise that children and young people under 16 should be encouraged to use mobile phones for essential purposes only, and to keep calls short.”

There is a desperate urgent need for education regarding this issue and I urge you to watch the enclosed video by Radiation Research Trustee/Emergency Medicine Doctor Erica Mallery Blythe video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNFdZVeXw7M>

It would be an infringement of human rights and possibly be in contravention of the Nuremberg treaty for MIP Telecom to subject residents to mobile phone mast emissions when they have not been shown to be safe, and indeed much research and observation suggest that there are significant risks, and when the residents have clearly not given permission or approval.

In addition the mast will materially prejudice views within one of the most beautiful villages in the country. The sight of the mast when viewed from neighbouring properties is such as to reduce the enjoyment of viewing an historic skyline spoiling some of Britain's finest examples of outstanding beautiful countryside and period architecture this would be seen as reckless and irresponsible by many residents. This is a place of heritage, pride and enjoyment for residents and the many tourists visiting this area. The mast will not only reduce the visual amenity but also act as a constant reminder of the potential health threat. Perceived health concerns related to masts create anxiety levels that are in themselves unhealthy and detrimental to the well-being of the local community. Therefore, the presence of a mast would be a constant reminder reinforcing the fear of health issues and under Regulations PPG8(29) this is a material consideration.

This installation will also cause a significant depreciation in the value of neighbouring properties. In a Court ruling in May 2003, seven householders in Swindon were awarded in Court, sums of between £10,000 and £20,000 each from Swindon Council who allowed the erection of a Mobile Phone Mast causing the properties to crash in value.

Recently, the insurance industry sounded the warning bells as specialists from the Emerging Risks team at the global insurance company Swiss Re Sonar highlighted the implications for human health, in its 2013 Emerging Risks report. The report clearly state potential impacts are rated as high and likely to hit the casualty area of insurance business over the next decade. In particular with regard to the use of mobile phones, power lines or antennas for broadcasting.

Furthermore, in accordance with provisions of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, there was a very telling revelation by a telecommunications company dated December 21, 2011, and you will find this to be true among similar reports in the telecom world. The report includes the following statement from VERIZON:

“Our wireless business also faces personal injury and consumer class action lawsuits relating to alleged health effects of wireless phones or radio frequency transmitters, and class action lawsuits that challenge marketing practices and disclosures relating to alleged adverse health effects of handheld wireless phones. We may incur significant expenses in defending these lawsuits. In addition, we may be required to pay significant awards or settlements.” Download more details here:

http://www.radiationresearch.org/images/rrt_articles/Business.pdf

This is a global issue with unparalleled amounts of money and power from industry. The US President’s Cancer Panel reported that “the true burden of environmentally induced cancers has been grossly underestimated” and strongly urged action to reduce people’s widespread exposure to carcinogens. The president’s Cancer Panel 2008 – 2009 Report offers policy, research and program recommendations to responsible agencies, stakeholders, and other entities following the review from all stakeholders. The Report states: “methods for long-term monitoring and quantification of electromagnetic energy exposures related to cell phones and wireless technologies are urgently needed given the escalating use of these devices by larger and younger segments of the population and the higher radiofrequencies newer devices produce.”

With all this in mind I respectfully request that the issues reported in this letter are taken on board and acted upon.

Yours faithfully,

MS Eileen O’Connor
Director
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