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Subject: Fact Sheet On Radio Frequency/Electromagnetic Radiation

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To: xxxxxxx

Everywhere in the modern world there is man-made radio frequency radiation (RFR) or extremely-low-electromagnetic radiation (EMF) fields; everyone is exposed. That will be the case if there are available electric power or radio, TV, and any use of telecommunications technology.

Personal communication devices such as cell phones, pagers, wireless network connections, will produce much greater exposures since they are used in contact with or close to the body. Even though the greatest exposure to most individuals today comes from the use of cell phones, these systems are required to meet Federal Communications Commission (FCC) standards in regard to limiting human exposures. The standards are intended to prevent adverse health effects that may be associated with tissue heating, **but are not intended to address low-intensity (non-thermal), long-term (chronic) exposures.** Investigation as to whether there may be effects from exposures too low to cause heating is continuing.

RFR exposure to most individuals from other sources, including powerful radio, TV transmitters and radar are generally much lower (less than one micro-watt per square centimeter) unless someone is close to the transmitter.

RFR or EMF is a difficult subject to deal with because:

- of the risk uncertainties;
- the need for more research and information about the effects of low-intensity, long-term exposures;
- little useful information available to the public, and;
- telecommunication service providers and device manufacturers having little more to tell people except "don't worry."

The following websites have additional information:

- Federal Communications Commission's RF Safety Line website at www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety

- California Department of Health Services - www.dhs.ca.gov/ehib/emf/general.html

For an online learning center on EMF - www.mmfa.org/elearning/en/home.html

World Health Organization on EMF - www.who.int/health_topics/electromagnetic_fields/en/

2002 booklet on EMF. Although it may seem dated, the principles are the same and not much is different in terms of results of new research.

http://www.who.int/peh-emf/publications/en/EMF_Risk_ALL.pdf

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