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# WIRELESS AMERICA COSTS MORE THAN A CELL PHONE BILL

## THE REAL PRICE: Your Health, Property Values & Democratic Rights

The Telecom Act of '96 was insidious. It took away the long-held right of municipalities to refuse cell-phone installations based on health effects from microwave radiation. Safety concerns about radiofrequency (RF) and microwave radiation are legitimate and based on decades of solid science. Yet, municipal agents—afraid of law suits from telecommunications giants—routinely silence citizens from bringing up health concerns at public hearings.

### How did this happen? . . . The U.S. Congress mandated it.

Towers now go up within a few feet of homes and school property. Antennas are hidden everywhere—in church steeples, on roof tops, silos, billboards, water tanks, atop telephone poles. Any structure will do to create the “seamless” cell-phone coverage coveted by the industry. **This wireless buildout creates a ubiquitous blanket of RF/microwave radiation in every town in America—with no clear understanding of the bioeffects.**

**CASE STUDIES:** Biological changes occur at extremely low intensities—comparable to cell tower exposures. (Measured in Specific Absorption Rates [SAR] in watts per kilogram [w/kg] of tissue.)

BIOLOGICAL CHANGES	SOURCE	SAR LEVEL
Blood brain barrier (guards against viruses, bacteria & toxins)	Salford et al.'97	0.00004w/kg
Cell proliferation/multiplication (theoretical lead to cancer)	Kwee et al. '97	0.000021-0.0021w/kg
Decrease in reproductive functions (in test animals)	Magras & Zenos '97	160-1053nW/sq.cm
Decrease in eating & drinking (in test animals)	Ray & Behari '90	0.01317w/kg
Changes in calcium efflux from cells (calcium regulates cell function)	Dutta et al.'89	0.05-0.005w/kg
DNA damage in human cells (Damage can lead to cancer & mutations)	Phillips et al. '90	0.0024-0.024w/kg

**There are many more... None of these is considered in the FCC standards.**

### HEALTH CONCERNS ARE REAL

The industry says “low power” installations are “no problem,” but low power doesn't mean “no effects.” Long-term, low-level exposures far below the current FCC standards have been of concern since the 1940s. In 1998 sixteen pre-eminent scientists met in Europe and issued The Vienna Resolution. The Resolution states that low level effects are scientifically established; that more research is imperative; and that no scientific consensus exists to form reliable exposure standards—**meaning the standards in place are unreliable.**

### QUESTIONS REMAIN UNANSWERED

There is no federal research on RF. Industry controls the show—from the kinds of studies, to who gets funded, to what is published. **The wireless buildout should not continue until basic questions about safety are answered by unbiased researchers.**

### PROPERTY DEVALUATION & DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

Realtors estimate a minimum of 10-30 percent devaluation to a residential property once a tower locates nearby. A jury in Texas awarded \$1.2 million to a couple for mental anguish and property devaluation after a 100 foot wireless tower was erected within 22 feet of their back yard. Most such homeowners never recover their losses. These are “illegal takings,” against the U.S. Constitution. Citizens fighting an installation can spend over \$75,000, and often sue their own towns. The Telecom Act of '96 has pitted citizens against their local governments. Where is the justice? There is important legislation and litigation in the wings. Our congressional representatives need to hear from us to stop the telecommunications rampage in our communities.

**JOIN US!** **The EMR Network, Citizens and Professionals for the Responsible Use of Electromagnetic Radiation** — a non-profit organization. We provide balanced information. Our mandate: to reduce, mitigate, and eliminate hazardous exposure to EMR. Our objective: to foster appropriate, unbiased federal research without influence by industry. Together we can restore democracy to our towns.

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