

Representing:

Self

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?

Keep name confidential

The permitted EIRP output limits for must NOT be increased.

Reasons: Health grounds

I am shocked that OFCOM is even considering this request of Vodaphone [and other mobile telecommunications operators] to increase the power limits permitted.

There are already serious health problems being caused as a result of the ludicrously high ICNIRP guidelines which are a million times higher than the levels applicable in Salzburg.

But, the introduction of the higher EIRP levels will cause exposure to go over the ludicrously high ICNIRP guidelines.

I question why OFCOM is making this decision. Why is the HPA is not being involved since there are very clear health implications involved

Sir William Stewart in his Stewart Report advised a 'precautionary approach'. This has been ignored by the government and OFCOM.

There is a plethora of research indicating that the microwave frequencies used by the telecommunications can cause adverse biological effects at low levels.

More recently, the Bioinitiative Report reviewed over 2000 research papers and concluded amongst other things that

[1] There are proven biological effects of radiation used by the telecommunications industry and that that are not considered in the INCIRP guidelines used by OFCOM.

[2] Present exposure levels permitted for mobile phone base stations, mobile phones, DECT cordless phones, WiFi, Bluetooth devices DO NOT PROTECT HEALTH.

[3] The permitted exposures should be based on biological effects. An initial 0.6 Volts per metre maximum exposure was recommended in the Bioinitiative.

[This is the same level as was recommended by Dr. Gerard Hyland in the earlier EU STOA REPORT.]

The findings of the Bioinitiative Report were accepted by the European Environmental Commission and by the European Parliament. Why is OFCOM not acting on the recommendations?

Why is OFCOM intent on ignoring this advice which was passed to governments by the EU Parliament?

Could it be that the telecommunications industry and the government is pulling its strings?

The negligence shown by OFCOM in controlling exposure levels is causing a huge health problem for many people who are severely affected by the present exposure levels, and emission levels permitted by OFCOM.

The adverse effects of radiation were document thus by German doctors.

http://www.powerwatch.org.uk/news/20050722_bamberg.asp

"Open letter to Edmund Stoiber, Prime Minister of Bavaria in Germany

"These reports show that the people for years have been ill due to pulsed high frequency electromagnetic fields, without the treating doctors recognising the cause. For that reason, people who are receiving the high frequency at home or at work have suffered and are suffering and they receive no therapy. The deciding [effective]

therapy is to end the exposure.

"The continually repeated assertion in the media by the Radiological Protection Commission (Strahlenschutzkommission), that there is no proof for health risks under the present valid limits, has had the consequence that most doctors, (including myself until a year ago) have not drawn a relationship between the many unexplained illness patterns and high frequency radiation. The doctors do not know that at not one single mobile phone base station have investigations into the health-state of the people been carried out. Thus, the evaluation of the Strahlenschutzkommission in 2001 has no scientific basis.

"In Oberfranken, we have just evaluated the medical complaints of 356 people who have had long-term [radiation] exposure in their homes.

- *The pulsed high frequency electro magnetic fields (from mobile phone base stations, from cable-less DECT telephones, amongst others), led to a new, previously unknown pattern of illnesses with a characteristic symptom complex.*
- *People suffer from one, several or many of the following symptoms: Sleep disturbances, tiredness, disturbance in concentration, forgetfulness, problem with finding words, depressive mood, ear noises, sudden loss of hearing, hearing loss, giddiness, nose bleeds, visual disturbances, frequent infections, sinusitis, joint and limb pains, nerve and soft tissue pains, feeling of numbness, heart rhythm disturbances, increased blood pressure episodes, hormonal disturbances, night-time sweats, nausea.*
- *Even at $10\mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ (only 0.06 V/m average) many people are becoming ill.*
- *The symptoms occur in temporal and spatial relationship to exposure. It is no way only a subjective sensitivity disturbance. Disturbances of rhythm, hearing problems, sudden deafness, hearing loss, loss of vision, increased blood pressure, hormonal disturbances, concentration impairments, and others can be proved using scientific objective measures.*
- *Some of the health disturbance disappears immediately the exposure ceases (removal of DECT telephone, temporary moving away from home, permanently moving away, using shielding).*

"Therefore, the expansion must be stopped immediately. Mobile phone base stations, in whose fields people are exposed to more than $10\mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ must be turned off.

"DECT telephones must be changed.

"Affected people, relatives and doctors must jointly commit themselves and work together with all their energy [to this end].

"Evaluation of symptoms of 356 people under long time home exposure to high frequency pulsed electromagnetic fields (DECT, telephones, mobile phone base stations) versus the level of the power flux density in microwatts per square metre."

Foreword - Documented Health Damage under the Influence of High Frequency Electromagnetic Fields
Dr. Cornelia Waldmann Selsam, Karl-May-Str.48, 96049 Bamberg

The exposures are causing a variety of health problems. Electrosensitivity is already a severe problem for many. Between 1-8% of the population is already EHS. Electrosensitivity is recognised as a functional impairment in Sweden and adjustments /screening against the microwave frequency radiation must be made to the home or environment or the person removed to an area of low radiation is screening is not sufficient.

It is the duty of OFCOM to protect public health and that includes the increasing minority of people who are already electrohypersensitive [EHS], or who will become EHS with continuing and increasing levels of exposure to the electromagnetic fields produced from mobile phone base stations, DECT cordless phones, WiFi, WIMAX, Bluetooth, and any other future similar devices.

The digital transmissions for television and digital radio are also a matter for health concern. Do you know that this technology is causing people near the Winter Hill TV transmitter to flee from their homes? This problem with digital TV signals has been reported by German medical doctors.

Effect on peoples' everyday lives

Do you have any understanding of how difficult it is making life for electrosensitive people who become physically affected as a direct result of this excessive environmental microwave frequency pollution?

Do you have any idea how problematic it can be to remain in the workplace, or to find suitable employment, if you become affected by the non-ionising radiation sources such as: wifi enabled computers, DECT phones, mobile phones, Bluetooth headsets, RFID technology, mobile

phone base stations near the workplace or near your home?

How do you work in an office, even a home office, when the radiation gives you migraines, makes it difficult to concentrate and impairs memory, makes your skin burn and tingle, amongst others? When your hands tingle and burn with the radiation.

How do you travel in WiFi enabled trains, surrounded by people with mobile phones, especially in the TETRA enabled underground.

How do you travel in modern cars with Bluetooth technology or with other microwave frequency devices?

Do you know how difficult it can be to attend social events when you are affected by the radiation from these 2G and 3G phone masts? This drive to blanket the UK with more and more electrosmog is depriving people of their human rights to equality.

Are you aware that many people have been literally forced to flee from their homes as a result of phone mast emissions. Do you realise how difficult it can be to find anywhere to live or even to take a holiday? Travel is difficult. People become increasingly isolated because of the need to escape the radiation. It is increasingly difficult to find areas with preferably 'no phone mast reception'. But these areas are so badly needed.

Increasing exposures from phone masts is going to make the situation even worse.

If you can afford to flee to somewhere remote then you do so. If not, then you are condemned to stay and suffer.

Have you any idea how difficult it can be and much it costs to shield just one room of your home against the radiation from the phone mast at the bottom of the road or at the back of the garden, or on the roof?

It is impossible to shield the whole of your home against the radiation. Especially, when being hit by 'main beams' from different directions. And what about those people in homes or offices where they are living or working on or close to the same vertical height as the antennae main beams? When did OFCOM ever carry out any measurements?

Yet OFCOM is considering turning up the power and making it harder to shield and the symptoms even more intolerable for those who are forced to stay in their homes for financial reasons.

Do you realise how difficult it can be if the neighbour next door has a mobile phone, DECT cordless phone or WiFi the other side of the wall and you have a constant migraine, sleep problems, tinnitus, cardiovascular problems etc. as a direct result.

Why did OFCOM not insist that DECT phones should not transmit 24/7/365?

Why did OFCOM not insist that the SAFETY and HEALTH effects of wifi should be investigated, as was recommended by Sir William Stewart in a TV Panorama programme.

The proposed increased exposures will impact on cardiovascular risks? The microwave frequency radiation from mobile phones can cause Rouleaux Formation of the blood corpuscles? That means that the red blood corpuscles lose their normal repulsive charge as a result of the radiation and tend to clump together instead of remaining apart. The health implication is recognised by German environmental doctors. With Rouleaux formation, it is more difficult for the blood to get through the microcirculation and therefore the tendency for heart attacks/ strokes is higher.

Get yourselves a microscope. Take a blood sample with no exposure to radiation and then turn on your phone for 5

minutes to hold a conversation and take another blood sample. Compare the results and take a photograph. Prove it for yourselves.

Do you know that the radiation also adversely affects cholesterol levels?

Many electrohypersensitive people have difficulties obtaining medical or dental treatment because the radiation exposures in treatment facilities are unbearably high? And, OFCOM in its total ignorance of the biological effects of the radiation, allows phone masts on hospital roofs, mobile phones in outpatient departments!

Do you know that the radiation causes genetic breaks – see the results of the international REFLEX STUDY, which conformed earlier studies by Henry Lai and others?

In Germany, the Naila Study [Eger et al, 2004] found a 3 fold increase in cancers within 400 metres of a mobile phone base station within 5 years of its erection. The Israel study [Wolf and Wolf, 2004] found a 4 fold increase in cancers and, worryingly, a 10 fold increase in female cancers. The majority of the published, peer-reviewed studies on phone masts listed on PubMed/WHO databases show a clear effect of the radiation on physical/ mental health. What do you expect the effects of yet ever more exposure phone masts will be on the incidence of cancers. And what will be the effect on the prognosis for cancer sufferers? What will be the implication for the number of people developing ill-health as a result of this outrageous proposal to increase exposures even more?

I note that a Swiss clinic which treats cancers advises its patients on how to have levels measured and to reduce their exposures.

What does OFCOM actually know about the effects of combining difference frequencies on health?

Are you aware that many people are forced spend a lot of money trying to shield their homes, living areas and bedrooms, as a result of the high exposure limits allowed by OFCOM?

It seems that OFCOM is uninterested in the short –term and long term health aspects of the untested technology, using microwave frequencies, which was released without adequate oversight and controls. I must point put that OFCOM has carried out NO measurements of exposures in homes of affected people and OFCOM has not ordered doctors to measure exposures at homes of patients complaining of phone mast related health complaints.

At no phone mast in the UK have formal studies been carried out measuring bedroom PEAK exposure levels and health symptoms experienced. You therefore have no basis for saying the present levels are safe. The majority of the peer reviewed studied carried out HAVE found adverse effects.

It has been known for decades that pulsed microwave radiation has biological [non-thermal] effects. Indeed, the Bioinitiative Report highlighted these effects and the findings were overwhelmingly approved by the European Parliament in 2009.

It is your duty to protect the interests of the general public and not to support the telecommunications industry in their greed to earn ever more profit.

Mobile phone radiation was not safety tested before it was let loose on the public. It is now impossible to conduct case controlled studies into its biological effects. There are now no un-irradiated individuals, animals or plants, let

alone bees. Increasing the power of mobile phone base stations will further accelerate the damage being done and should not be allowed.

Mobile phone base station emissions in our collective environment do not exist in isolation. They are part of the cacophony of digital signals to which we are now all subjected. Until it is known why they and other forms of man-made digitally pulsed microwave radiation makes some people sick, allowing an increase in radiated power is dangerous, irresponsible and should not be allowed.

Incredibly, Ofcom does not know how much digitally pulsed microwave radiation is emitted from all the transmitters on the masts to which it, on the Government's behalf, grants licences. Ofcom does not ask the operators and the operators are not obliged to provide information on the number of individual transmitters or their antenna gain in any particular direction. Even if Ofcom did know, because each licence application is considered in isolation, they have no idea of the total emissions from any given mast, rooftop or other installed facility.

Even if Ofcom conducts measurements, it is clear to those adversely affected that in the digital realm, gross power levels are an inadequate metric for assessing biological effects. Indeed Ofcom do not appear empowered to consider biological effects, deferring to other equally complicit organisations such as ICNIRP, **the UK's Health Protection Agency - HPA and The World Health Organisation - WHO to cover their ignorance, lack of remit and lack of influence.**

Even if Ofcom had all of the information believed lacking, they have no way of factoring in all the other exposures to which people are subjected as they go about their normal daily business. Digital Terrestrial TV - DTV, Digital Audio Broadcasts - DAB, satellites, airborne radar and HAPS to name but a few. Wireless alarm systems, leakage from microwave ovens - the list goes on and on, never mind those ignorant or foolhardy enough hold mobile phones to

their heads. Where is precaution in any of this? Until more is known about the now undeniable adverse biological effects of pulsed digital microwave radiation and other forms of man-made electromagnetic radiation, increased signal strengths from mobile phone base stations should not be allowed.

This Government and Ofcom are subservient to, and slavishly compromised by the ICNIRP standards which allow blanket exposure based on gross analogue power levels, taking into no account the non-thermal effects of digital signals. Increased levels of digitally pulsed mobile phone base station microwave emissions should not be allowed.

Britain, like the rest of the world has allowed itself to be swept up on a wave of technological advantage with scant regard for the health consequences. Ofcom have been instrumental in that process. A public health tsunami of unimaginable consequence is building.

THE REQUEST TO INCREASE INCREASE POWER OUT PUT AND OUR EXPOSURES SHOULD BE REJECTED.