

14 April 2010

The Standing Committee on Health
Sixth Floor, 131 Queen St.
House of Commons
Ottawa K1A 0A6
Canada

Dear Sirs/Madams:

As a public health physician who has served as the administrator of studies focused on the health hazards of electromagnetic field in New York, I am writing to express my concern over the existing standards for radiofrequency fields that are currently in place by international organizations as well as by both the Canadian and US governments. These standards, based on the false assumption that there are no hazards from radiofrequency fields beyond those caused by tissue heating, do not protect the health of the public.

There is increasingly strong evidence that long-term use of cell phones results in a significant increase in the rates of brain cancer, tumors of the auditory nerve and the parotid gland, one of the salivary glands in the neck. There is evidence that children are at even greater risk than adults, which is important because of the widespread use of cell phones and other wireless devices by children. In addition there is evidence that children living near to radio transmission towers are at elevated risk of developing leukemia. There is less strong but growing evidence that learning abilities are compromised in children and adults exposed to high radiofrequency radiation at levels much lower than current standards.

While there remain a number of unanswered questions, the potential public health impact of the great increase in exposure of the full population to radiofrequency radiation is sufficiently serious so as to call for review and revision of current standards, and application of the precautionary principle for the protection of human health. I urge your committee to establish a subcommittee which can study this important health concern in detail and make recommendations for revisions in current standards.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,



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