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11<sup>th</sup> May 2005

Dear Sir/ Madam

Re: Inquiry into services and treatment options for persons with cancer.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this Inquiry. However, I would like to state that due to unforeseen circumstances this late submission will be less comprehensive than planned. We trust though, its content will be of sufficient interest to the Committee to provoke further investigation into this topic.

As Co-ordinator of a self-help group of environmentally-affected individuals and also a cancer patient (at the present time undergoing treatment), I have a major concern regarding a serious omission in relation to availability of patient information regarding environmental factors and cancer. We believes this omission may hinder the success rate of cancer treatment in some cases.

Regarding cancer treatment, it cannot be disputed that any factor that would inhibit the recovery from a cancerous condition should be avoided if optimum response to treatment and absence of recurrence is desired. In order to achieve this end, the patient as well as the medical practitioner needs to be aware of all environmental factors involved in health matters. This aspect of cancer recovery is, as yet, completely overlooked.

In Germany, however, we are informed that some cancer specialists do actually investigate the cancer patient's home and work environment for EMR exposures.

In USA two agencies have designated EMR as a possible human carcinogen based upon the numerous studies and reports collated over a number of years (See att: 6)

By contrast, here in Australia a Cancer Control Bulletin titled '*Information for GPs – Electromagnetic Fields*' - issued by South East Health while reviewing

sources and evidence of the hazard of EMR exposure, rates EMR exposure as a 'distraction' compared to the range of measures to be taken to prevent cancer such as not smoking, sun protection, increased consumption of fresh fruit and green vegetables and utilizing diagnostic screening procedures.

Time restraints have not permitted a follow up to determine whether this position has changed in the Cancer Control Series of Bulletins.

Please note the following attachments and publications :

***THE INVISIBLE DISEASES (The Dangers of Environmental Illnesses caused by Electromagnetic Fields and Chemical Emissions.*** Gunni Nordstrom © 2004 O Books Winchester. UK, New York USA.

***JOINT ACTIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL NON-IONIZING ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS and CHEMICAL POLLUTION IN CANCER PROMOTION*** Dr W R Adey (1990) *Enviro Health Perspectives* Vol.,86 pp.297-305

Abstract:

***“Studies of environmental electromagnetic radiation (EM) field interactions in tissues have contributed to a new understanding of both normal growth and the biology of cancer cell growth . From cancer research comes a floodtide of new knowledge about the disruption of communication of cancer-promoting chemicals with an onset of unregulated growth. Bioelectromagnetic research reveals clear evidence of joint actions at cell membranes of chemical cancer promoters and electromagnetic fields.***

***The union of these two disciplines has resulted in the first major new approach to tumor formation in 75 years, directing attention to the dysfunctions of the inward and outward streams of signals at cell membranes, rather than to damage DNA in cell nuclei, and to synergic actions of chemical pollutants and environmental electromagnetic fields. We are witnesses and in great measure participants in one of the great revolutions in history of biology. In little more than a century, we have moved from organs, to tissues, to cells and finally to molecules that are the elegant fabric of living tissues. Today, we stand at a new frontier. It may be more difficult to comprehend, but it is far more significant ; for it is at the atomic level, rather than the molecular, that physical rather than chemical , processes appear to shape the flow of signals that are the essence of living matter.***

***To pursue these problems in the environment and in the laboratory , our needs***

*for further research with appropriate budgets are great. We recognize the importance of studies that address the effects of long term recurrent, intermittent exposures to environmental electromagnetic fields, which is an area where simplistic concepts of cumulative dose effects do not apply.*

*These epidemiological and laboratory studies emphasise the growing impact of environmental chemical pollution and the rapidly increasing deployment of an almost infinite variety of environmental electromagnetic fields as possible joint factors in the promotion of cancer. As we move toward the 21<sup>st</sup> century elucidation of mechanisms underlying these interactions at the cellular and molecular level will become matters of urgency. At the same time, implementation of public policies that would mitigate risks from these exposures may impact heavily on existing industrial practices. And on important aspects of environmental planning and housing and urban development. At this stage, it is of paramount importance that the significance of these issues is no longer ignored.”*

*Attachment 1)*

***ABNORMAL ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS HARMFUL EFFECTS AND METHODS OF AVOIDANCE. R.White © 2003***

*Attachment 2)*

***Information Pamphlet on EMR Exposure - designed for health professionals )Betty Venables © 2002***

*Attachment 3)*

***PRUDENT AVOIDANCE GUIDELINES FOR POWER FREQUENCY MAGNETIC FIELDS K. Nuttall, P.Flanagan G. Melik. (Hard copy Available from Energy Australia or EMR Safety Network (PH 02 9540 3936)***

*Attachment 4)*

***Changes in Health Status in a Group of CFS and CF Patients Following Removal of Excessive 50Hz Magnetic Field Exposure.***

***© Don Maisch, J Podd, B Rapley.***

*Attachment 5)*

***New York Council Resolution 1995***

**Attachment 6)****New York Newsletter – EMFs possible human carcinogens Miscellaneous****References**

(Ref: Harland J.D. & R.P. Liburdey Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, University of California 94720, USA. **ELF INHIBITION OF MELATONIN AND TAMOXIFEN ON MFC-7 CELL PROLIFERATION; FIELD PARAMETERS**

**CSIRO Report Compiled by Dr S Barnett (1994)**

Barnett, S.B., 1994, *CSIRO report on the status of research on biological effects and safety of electromagnetic radiation: telecommunication frequencies.*

Ultrasonics Laboratory, Radiophysics Division, CSIRO, pp 174, June 1994.

**ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION AND YOUR HEALTH**

© (1999) Betty Venables ISBN 0 646 29952 2 This book covers EMR exposure from High and Low voltage power lines to mobile phone levels of radiation.

**USA Electromagnetic fields (EMFs) A Training Workbook for Working People. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (1995) © Produced by the Labor Institute of NYC**

**Green L.M., Miller A.B., Villeneuve P.J., Agnew D.A., Greenberg M.L., Li J., Donnelly K.E., Dept., of Public Health Sciences, (June 1999) University of Toronto, Canada. ( E-mail [lm.green@utoronto.ca](mailto:lm.green@utoronto.ca)) Childhood Leukemia and personal monitoring of residential exposures to electric and magnetic fields in Ontario, Canada. (Medline record in process)**

Wilson-BW; Wright-CW; Morris-JE; Buschbom-RL; Brown-DP; Miller-DL; Sommers-Flannigan-R; Anderson-LE: Evidence for an effect of ELF electromagnetic fields on human pineal gland function. *J-Pineal-Res.*1990; 9(4): 259-69

**PERILS OF PROGRESS CHEMICAL- FREE LIVING (1998) © Prof R Laura & R Ashton. Sally Milner Publishing, NSW Aust.**

We believe that information on the effects of EMR and those of known toxic chemical agents should be made available to all as an adjunct to responsible treatment and management of the cancer patient in particular.

A hard copy of this submission with attachments will be in the post this day. We trust this hasty submission may prove to be of value to the Inquiry

Yours sincerely  
Betty Venables  
Co-Ordinator  
EMR Safety Network-Int'l