

Monday 14th June 2010.
The Hon Helen Zille
Democratic Alliance

Dear Ms Zille;

We are a relatively newly formed foundation in South Africa, that has been formed to create the long overdue awareness in South Africa on the subject of microwave radiation.

We are writing to you to convey our concern at the prevalence and effects of electromagnetic pollution in South Africa and the recent report that the DA intends to WIFI Cape Town.

This totally invisible pollution has proliferated at an incredible rate over the past few decades. The most significant recent addition has been mobile phone technology; it is a fact that a majority of the world's population, over four billion people, now use cellphones. Over a period of less than 20 years, this probably represents the single most dramatic take-up of technology in human history.

There is no question that this global take-up will have all kinds of consequences, both intended and unintended. At one level, humans are a social species, and communication is a necessity in our lives; but the use of cellphones or wifi to facilitate communication means that entire populations are now being bathed in microwave radiation, with drastic consequences for health.

It has been known since the 1950s that microwave radiation – as employed by cellphones – may be extremely dangerous to health. The first reported symptoms were blindness and infertility in military radar operators. There are now literally thousands of clinical and scientific papers showing a vast range of illnesses and conditions linked to microwave radiation. From the 1960s, a disease known as "[microwave sickness](#)" has been on Russian clinical diagnosis books; a syndrome which includes blood pressure and heart rhythm problems, nervous tension, headaches, neurological disorders, irritability, anxiety and nervous tension, concentration problems, eye pain, sleeplessness, fatigue, heart disease and cancer.

Recently, the Electromagnetic Radiation Research Foundation of South Africa hosted a visit by retired British military intelligence scientist, Barrie Trower. He was involved for many years in "stealth" warfare using microwaves, and compiled a list of frequencies and the effects they would have on health and psychological wellbeing. This was based on his interrogation of spies from the Soviet bloc who had been infiltrated into the West to radiate senior politicians and affect their health and performance. He stressed that the radiation used in cellphones is identical in every respect to the radiation that was used as a weapon: the same pulsed frequencies, the same intensities, the same carrier waves. He has particularly highlighted depression and suicide in young people as one of the first symptoms of exposure to microwave radiation from cell phones/cell masts/wifi.

South Africa was one of the first countries in the world to have more cellphones than landlines – indeed, a few years ago, the International Telecommunications Union noted with surprise that South Africa was virtually unique in the world in rolling **back** on landlines. Cellphone penetration in this country has reached the point where there are more SIM cards in circulation than there are people. In such a situation, if there really are problems with microwave radiation, we should expect by now to see major effects on the whole population.

We therefore draw your attention to the following pandemics, which have all arisen in South Africa since 1995, the first full year of mobile phone operation in this country, and which have all been linked in many studies to microwave radiation:

1. Pandemic of attention deficit disorder (ADD) in children. Virtually unknown in black schools in the 1980s, this has now reached genuine pandemic status in our urban schools. In some cases, classes of children are living on Ritalin, according to some reports heard by teachers in Johannesburg. Many studies have shown concentration and attention problems to be associated with microwave radiation.

Barrie Trower, who has travelled the world consulting on the dangers of microwaves, says he gives a guarantee wherever he goes, that if a cellphone mast is put up in a school, academic performance and behavioural standards will drop, and health problems in both students and staff will increase. He says he has never been contradicted in this observation. Since South African education is by common consent in a state of crisis, and since a vast number of our schools have put up masts in their playgrounds to gain a paltry sum (the average seems to be R3,000 a month) from the operators, removing masts from schools may be one of the quickest and easiest ways to improve the performance and health of our children.

We will point out that Section 28 of the Bill of Rights of the Constitution says: "A child's best interests are of paramount importance in every matter concerning the child." We feel that exposing children at close quarters to microwave radiation in order to make money cannot be in accordance with this constitutional principle.

The World Health Organisation and other agencies list electromagnetic radiation as a "possible environmental carcinogen", with childhood leukaemia as the strongest indication. Barrie Trower by 2006 had logged over 200 leukaemia clusters around cellphone masts, each cluster consisting of more than ten children under the age of 11, in the UK, Spain and France. Most of these children died. We are also finding suspicious clusters of leukaemias in children near masts in South Africa. World best practice is NOT to locate masts near schools – as in the UK, Russia, Austria Switzerland, Taiwan (which abruptly pulled 1,500 masts out of schools in 2007) and India. In South Africa, schools seem to be the preferred site for operators, and we have measured the full beam of masts falling directly on classrooms, playgrounds, dormitories and staffrooms.

According to the Precautionary Principle – signed by South Africa at the Rio Summit in 2002 – even when there is not yet full proof of danger, steps should be taken to minimise particular risks. We feel that removing masts from schools immediately would be a step in the right direction.

It should be noted that Taiwan removed 1500 masts already in 2007 from near schools and residential areas to protect the future of their children. Here the service providers are pushing their towers into any schools that will unwittingly have them.

Taiwan removes 1500 masts to reduce radiation levels and protect children in schools / 2007.

<http://www.chinapost.com.tw/taiwan/2007/11/06/129715/1500-cellphone.htm>

There are hundreds of studies such as the Naila study that I attach for your perusal that show the increase of cancers near masts and concluded "that the risk of newly developing cancer was three times higher among those patients who had lived during the past ten years within a distance of 400 metres from a cellular transmitter, in comparison to those that had lived far away.

http://www.buergerwelle.de/pdf/who_and_pubmed_epidemiological_studies_on_base_stations_2006.pdf

To date FOURTEEN epidemiological studies on mobile telecommunication base stations have been published and are referenced either on the EMF WHO database and/or on PUBMED. **10 studies (70%) DID find significant increases in the symptoms being analysed.** A letter was written to WHO – attached an SOS from South Africa.

2. The levels of cancer and leukaemia have increased dramatically in South Africa in children including babies from birth. In order- leukaemia, brain,eye,kidney.

3. It was noted recently in The Star that suicide amongst our youth is up by 21% - indeed an area for concern.

4. At least 40% of the population are HIV positive and microwave radiation dramatically affects immune systems therefore compromising the quality of life of these individuals.

5. A minimum of 3% of the world's population are EHS (Electrohypersensitive) and a further 35% moderately sensitive. From severe exposure to all these different forms of electrosmog, this number is increasing and white zones are being set up in countries such as Sweden and France. In South Africa we already have many people recorded in our support group for EHS sufferers. Some of our founding members were made electrosensitive by a wimax/broadband/Iburst mast. (wifi). Attached is a document by Professor Olle Johannsen a highly respected researcher in the field of EM radiation on EHS. – Electrohypersensitivity.

More information can be viewed on the links below. It is concerning that the allopathic medical fraternity are not educated as a whole in South Africa on this subject and do not recognise the symptoms or ask the right questions. It is a recognised disability by the UN and certainly the EHS are well noted and allowances made for them in Sweden.

<http://www.weepinitiative.org/talkingtoyourdoctor.pdf>

<http://www.weepinitiative.org/livingwithEHS.html>

As to the plans to wifi either Cape Town or Johannesburg, we appeal to you to avoid this at all costs. Due to the totally unregulated monitoring of this industry, people are already being affected in many ways from the proliferation of microwave radiation in a myriad of frequencies and pulsing.

Cape Town has access to landlines and therefore can remain safely hardwired. Cape Town has always been known for being eco-aware, but this move would truly fly in the face of this.

Nearly all Cape Town hotels are highly wifi enabled throughout and this has made it a problem with any EHS person to stay in Cape Town itself without the added aggravation of an entire microwave net pulsing over the whole city.

May I refer you to the attached document - Analysis of proposed San Francisco WIFI network that was lobbied against and stopped. Professor Magda Havas did the analysis that clearly indicates the dangers. It should be noted that a private school here in South Africa had a serious spate of illnesses following the installation of wifi in the school and the children suffered from nausea, headaches, rashes, vomiting and

unexplained allergic type reactions. In addition it appeared that the concentration levels were affected and children may have become more aggressive in a couple of cases. A few more documents are attached from Ms Havas.

France is removing wifi from their schools and is hardwiring with optic fibre cable at a cost of 123 Million Euros planning to replace wireless but have safe connectivity to homes too by July 2010. They have also removed wifi from the national libraries. France is leading the way not just in the awareness but also showing that they have taken concern of the health factors and are not taking risks with their citizens anymore.

<http://www.next-up.org/pdf/FranceNationalLibraryGivesUpWiFi07042008.pdf>

[Another article from Germany/](#)

The German Gov is already advising its citizens to use wired internet connections instead of wifi and landlines instead of mobile phones.

<http://www.hese-project.org/hese-uk/en/niemr/bundesregierung.php>

Attached also find a press release from the Verum foundation where Professor Adelkofer advised that UMTS (wifi/broadband masts/wimax) signals were more damaging than GSM radiation – cell phone signals. UMTS base stations were banned in Holland in 2006.

Sweden is also progressive on the subject and one of the other top researchers Olle Johannsen has also written the document a curious year in Sweden 1997 where the increase of illnesses were monitored after the introduction of the cellular infrastructures.

There appears to be no control or regulation force that is effective in South Africa. In fact we have been unable to find a body that has a record of every mast or antennae in South Africa, including ICASA or GDARD. Masts and antennae have been put up in many cases without any EIA especially on top of shops, apartment buildings and hotels. There is an impressive array on top of The Ritz Hotel in Seapoint as a prime example.

Money obviously outweighs the health of our citizens.

Furthermore the industry here hides behind adhering to WHO and ICNIRP and its levels, but as far back as 2007 The Bioinitiative report has advised that those levels are not acceptable and outdated. **The Bioinitiative report was a review of 2000 peer reviewed papers and an interim safer measurement was set for guidelines.**

<http://www.mcsresearch.net/bioinitiativetable.pdf> (a brief summary)

<http://www.bioinitiative.org/report>

<http://www.next-up.org/NewsOfTheWorld/BioInitiativeIntro.php>

(It should be noted that these guidelines may not be low enough for electrosensitive individuals and some researchers feel that these are just interim safer measures to be immediately adopted as

advocated by the European Parliament and adopted by 8 countries already. No safe level has been determined for children.)

The European parliament has questioned the WHO's decision-making and has advised its 27 member states not to follow the WHO's recommendations but to follow the Bioinitiative Report's recommendations. 522 Votes were recorded in favour of restricting exposure of populations to microwaves and 16 votes were recorded against. The European parliament has thus resoundingly discredited the WHO and ICNIRP's recommendations, and laws are now being revised and implemented to take down or turn off technologies that use microwaves.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2009-0216+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN>

It should also be noted that Botswana seems to be more educated on the fact and one village headed by the Royal Bakgatla tribe has just “removed” a mast that was causing illness and cancers. At a recent presentation, where we were invited to present at least 70 key officials attended. The king, who is also a lawyer is a prime example of a man who has done the investigation and is concerned about the welfare of his people and not the financial rewards – truly refreshing.

The City of Windhoek is currently busy with an investigation into the health impacts of EM Radiation and has a moratorium on any further masts.

In South Africa, our constitutional rights are being violated by these experiments on us and this is against the Nuremberg treaty.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has only started looking at studies on children as of 2009 and has stated that it is unsure as to the present status on microwave radiation exposure and will only provide an estimate in 2015. This contravenes the UN convention as based on the Nuremberg Code for Human Experimentation - ethics provisions, where a person has a right not to be experimented on and in fact has to provide formal consent to all inconveniences, hazards and effects on health in order to be a part of that experiment. (The WHO does acknowledge that 3% of people are sensitive to Electromagnetic radiation.)

<http://ohsr.od.nih.gov/guidelines/nuremberghtml>

We bring your attention once again to the Precautionary principle. Why is this not being applied by our government or any political parties ? Has no-one done their homework or is the money involved behind the scenes that has kept the implications of the results of this electrosmog damage buried.

The Precautionary Principle

Lack Of Conclusive Evidence &The Precautionary Principle:

"The precautionary principle states that if a policy (or action) has a suspected risk of causing harm, in the absence of a rational consensus that harm will not occur, the burden of proof falls on those who would advocate the policy (or action)."

Due to the uncertainty of the validity of "thermal" safety standards in terms not only due to their wide variation amongst countries, and the fact that these safety standards do not cover "non-thermal effects" the application of the "Precautionary Principle", is advocated.

"Effectively, this allows policy makers to make discretionary decisions in situations where there is evidence of potential harm in the absence of complete proof.

The principle implies that there is a responsibility to intervene and protect people from exposure to harm where there is a plausible risk."

<http://habitat.igc.org/agenda21/rio-dec.html>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Precautionary_principle

We are receiving reports daily about people being affected in areas where there are masts – cell phone and broadband. The symptoms of EM Radiation are headaches, nausea, rashes, short term memory loss, extreme fatigue, shooting pains in muscles, itching burning skin, increased allergic reactions and swollen lymph glands and most importantly cancers and a compromised immune system.

It is a concern too that with the World Cup the radiation levels will be pushed up to max and it will be interesting to see what the health of our country does over this period especially in Johannesburg. Levels appear to have already started elevating in Johannesburg from the 2nd June with some levels in areas so high that is affecting car alarms and remotes. Electrosensitive people are reporting in on already feeling the increase.

We would appreciate the opportunity for presenting to the DA in Cape Town and would be prepared to fly down to do so with some of our key foundation members.

Your attention and response to this would be greatly appreciated and we appeal to you to address this concern as a matter of priority for all of us in South Africa.

Best regards

Tracey-Lee Dorny
Chairman

On behalf of The Foundation Committee.



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"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about the things that matter "
Martin Luther King Jnr

Affiliated to the EM Radiation Research Trust UK

<http://www.radiationresearch.org/>

The EMRRFSA Foundation Project is supported by E. Oppenheimer and Son and The Diamond Route.

The Diamond Route is a massive national project which focuses on linking the conservation properties of the Oppenheimer family and De Beers. These properties conserve vast conservation areas and provide a safe haven for a wide variety of unique, rare and ecologically important plants and wildlife and provide endless photographic opportunities. These properties are open to the public who are encouraged to explore this wealth of tourism opportunities.

Please visit the website www.diamondroute.co.za or contact Duncan MacFadyen, Manager of Research and Conservation: E. Oppenheimer & Son on Duncan.MacFadyen@eoston.co.za

