



19 October 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Dear Sirs/Madams:

I am a public health physician who serves as Director of the Institute for Health and the Environment, a Collaborating Center of the World Health Organization, as well as a professor of Environmental Health Sciences at the University at Albany School of Public Health. I previously served as Director of the Wadsworth Center for Laboratories and Research of the New York State Department of Health, and as Dean of the University at Albany School of Public Health. I received my medical degree from Harvard Medical School, have more than 460 peer-reviewed publications, six books and 50 reviews and book chapters.

Some of my work has been directed at the issue of whether there are significant adverse health effects as a result of exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMFs). When I first came to Albany, working for the Department of Health, I was given the responsibility of administering a research program on whether high voltage power lines increased risk of childhood cancer. Some of the results from this study confirmed an earlier report of this association, and after that research program concluded I became the spokesperson for New York State on all issues related to EMFs until I moved my employment to the University. But I have remained involved in this issue although it has not been the major focus of my personal research. I have served on national and international committees and have testified on the subject before the US Congress. I am also co-editor of the "BioInitiative Report," (www.bioinitiative.org), first published in 2007, a comprehensive review of the adverse health effects of radiofrequency electromagnetic fields (EMFs).

Radiofrequency EMFs come from cell phones, cell towers, WiFi, smart meters and everything else that is wireless. There is a strong body of evidence that radiofrequency EMFs at intensities experienced by humans from cell phones and cell towers increase risk of several disease, including cancer, reproductive abnormalities and a syndrome called "electrohypersensitivity. The International Agency for Research on Cancer has rated radiofrequency fields as "possible" human carcinogens some years ago. The reason the rates was not higher was the lack of evidence that radiofrequency EMFs caused cancer in animals. That has changed now, for the National Toxicology Program in the US and the research by the Ramazzini Institute in Italy have shown the exposure like those from cell phone and cell towers, respectively, cause brain and heart cancers in rats and mice. There is increasing evidence that simply living near to a cell tower increases risk of cancer and other diseases in humans.

Individuals with preexisting conditions are more vulnerable to the threats coming from exposure to radiofrequency EMFs that are those from the general population. These individuals are protected by the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Linda Hinson is an elderly woman who suffers from electrohypersensitivity, hypertension, severe chronic migraine headaches and scoliosis. She is severely disabled. Under the provisions of the Americans With Disabilities Act, she must be protected from an excessive exposure to any agent that poses additional threat to her health. In her case radiofrequency EMFs are clearly the cause of her electrohypersensitivity, and may make worse her other symptoms.

Based on these considerations it is essential that there not be a cell tower placed close to her home. As I understand there is a current proposal to place a cell tower within 1500 feet from her residence. Such a cell tower will significantly increase her exposure to radiofrequency radiation and cause severe harm to a person who is already disabled.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "David O. Carpenter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David O. Carpenter, MD
Director, Institute for Health
and the Environment
University at Albany