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Dear Candidate

General Election 2010 Electromagnetic Radiation Challenge

While the UK economy is the proverbial 'elephant in the room' in the 2010 general election, there is an issue that may impact locally, to be addressed by all political parties namely the unanswered questions on the risks of electromagnetic radiation from masts and extensive mobile phone usage by children and young persons.

At the Radiation Research Trust we believe that the UK Health Protection Agency is currently failing to provide balanced guidance to the public on these issues, deferring instead to the advice of the non-elected and self-perpetuating International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). Likewise OFCOM in the UK has a laid-back attitude to site-monitoring hiding behind the H.P.A and ICNIRP.

The French Parliament (Assemblée Nationale) is due to debate this Spring some of the conclusions and recommendations (attached) from the recent GEST Report which actively addresses the need for a 'rational approach to risks' and 'strengthening concerted action' of local planning for mast sites and the levels of emissions therefrom. That report also highlights - as the Trust does - the need for further research and even advocates a 50 cents levy on each mobile phone sale to help fund research.

Accordingly in this election campaign and beyond we would ask for your support on the following:

- Establishing formal British/European standards for emissions (or equivalent) set under the aegis of British Standards (BSI).
- Allow local planning committees to determine where masts be sited paying proper attention to the proximity of sensitive sites such as hospitals, schools, nurseries, care homes etc.
- In an industry that generates billions of pounds each year for the Exchequer to provide via the industry or a hypothecated levy at point of sale funding for research on key issues, including:-

The potential health impact on today's children of their extensive use of mobiles.

Improvements in the built environment to protect all susceptible people from the increasing volume of electromagnetic radiation including that projected through the introduction of smart-meter installations.

Our website www.radiationresearch.org can provide you with further information on what could well be a major challenge to the health of future generations. The analogy to the impact on public health over decades of smoking or asbestos is perplexing many scientists today.

The Trust recognises that the technology is here to stay but implores that the UK Government adopts the precautionary approach to electromagnetic radiation as advocated by Sir William Stewart in his reports of 2000 and 2004 and as reaffirmed by him at our September 2008 conference. Lip service from Government agencies and departments is not giving these health issues proper respect.

Listen to Sir William.....

Yours sincerely

Michael J. Ben.

Trustee

Attached: Gest Report Recommendations.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMANDATIONS

I - PURSUING THE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION EFFORT

A - The research effort

1. Increasing scientific knowledge

a) *In the field of epidemiology*

- Effects of the long term use of mobile phones ;
- Risk of brain tumours among children ;
- Health effects of wireless technologies on children and adults ;
- Effects on workers of exposure to radiofrequencies.

b) *In the field of electrohypersensitivity (EHS)*

Research on the causes of problems encountered by persons stating they are electrohypersensitive and payment of subsidies to associations representing these persons.

2. Provide for means on a par with the stakes

- Renew, beyond 2009, the mandate of the Fondation Santé et Radiofréquences (Health and Radiofrequencies Foundation) to allow the roll-out of an ad hoc structure and an adapted means of funding ;
- Lay down that the future structure shall take account of the research conducted by private laboratories and even, where applicable, shall take part in it ;
- Grant the future structure a budgetary allowance funded by a tax of 0.50 € on each mobile phone sold, part being allocated to the funding of exposure measurements.

B- Exploiting sources of innovation

- Encourage manufacturers to produce a mobile phone with a retractable earpiece, patents having already been filed for such products ;
- Exploit already existing technologies that allow WiFi radiations to be focused on the sole objects we need, so as to limit radiations.

II - ROLLING OUT EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE

A- Adopting a rational approach to risks

1. Reaffirm the distinction between exposure to a mobile phone and exposure to relay antennas. This is the prerequisite for a good risk management policy applying the precautionary principle to mobile phones alone and employing a principle of paying attention to the concerns of those living alongside relay antennas.

2. Setting in place a strong communication policy on risks.

a) *Facilitating the access of citizens to transparent and full information, especially by means of :*

- Inscription of the specific absorption rate (SAR) on mobile phones ;
- Improvement of the CARTORADIO site ;
- An assurance of being able to rapidly have a measurement of the exposure level carried out, free of charge

b) *Encourage scientists to take part in debates with civil society.*

B- Strengthening concerted action

- Subject relay antenna installation applications to the building licence procedure ;
- Strengthen the prerogatives of mayors ;
 - Allow them to have measurements of exposure levels carried out before and after the filing of an application to install a relay antenna ;
 - Lay down that they can carry out an annual measurements campaign. A follow-up committee comprising local elected representatives and citizens drawn by lot among volunteers shall be set up for this purpose at the communal or intercommunal level.

The report is available at the following address:

<http://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/13/pdf/rap-off/12005-tl.pdf> and <http://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/13/pdf/rap-off/12005-tl.pdf>