BioInitiative Group Seeks Tougher Exposure Limits

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Return to Main Article Archive

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2026 Articles 2014 Articles
2025 Articles 2013 Articles
2024 Articles 2012 Articles
2023 Articles 2011 Articles
2022 Articles 2010 Articles
2021 Articles 2009 Articles
2020 Articles 2008 Articles
2019 Articles 2007 Articles
2018 Articles 2006 Articles
2017 Articles 2005 Articles
2016 Articles 2004 Articles
2015 Articles

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An international group of researchers has thrown down the gauntlet. The Bioinitiative Working Group is challenging the EMF power structure to set much stricter exposure standards for power lines, cell phones, cell towers and other sources of electromagnetic radiation.

"'Business as usual' is unacceptable," says David Carpenter, the director of the Institute for Health and the Environment at New York's University of Albany, on releasing the working group's extensive report. Its general conclusion is that there are many biological effects at levels that are well below current standards and that the "existing safety limits are inadequate to protect public health." Carpenter and Cindy Sage, a consultant based in Santa Barbara, CA, coordinated the Bioinitiative group and edited the report.

Among the group's key recommendations are:
• a 1mG limit for homes where children and/or pregnant women live;
• a "precautionary limit" of 0.1μW/cm² (0.6V/m) for RF exposures where "people live, work and go to school."
These proposed levels are on the order of 1,000 times more stringent than current limits adopted by ICNIRP and the IEEE's ICES.

In addition to Carpenter and Sage, the contributors to the report are: Carl Blackman, Martin Blank, Guangdi Chen, Zoreh Davanipour, David Gee, Lennart Hardell, Olle Johansson, Michael Kundi, Henry Lai, Kjell Hansson Mild, Gene Sobel and Zhengping Xu. All 21 sections of the report are available as free downloads from the Bioinitiative Web site.

Will those responsible for developing EMF policies on both the international and national levels now review the Bioinitiative's findings and engage in a dialogue over what the appropriate

exposure limits should be? Or will they simply ignore them and continue with business as usual? We think we know the answer, but we're ready to be surprised.

BioInitiative, Cindy Sage, David Carpenter,

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