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Brief Comment

Dear Sirs and Madams, I am strongly urging not moving forward in implementing 5G in any fashion until all health and safety risks are assessed honestly, unbiasedly, and with no influence from the telecommunications industry whatsoever. We need scientists who can come up with findings based on real science, without fear of losing their funding, having their credibility questioned, and other intimidation. We need health experts that specialize in how humans and all living biological organisms are affected by electromagnetic technology that is already being unleashed at a pace unknown in human history. I'd like to share my personal story with the current level of technology from the past ten years. I first became aware of microwave radiation in an offhand way in 2013. Firstly, I have to say that I was a huge fan of wireless tech since I got my first macbook in 2002. I had used wifi on train in the pilot program on the commuter rail since its inception, and loved the convenience. I had my whole condo on a wifi network. My entire family had iPhones, iPads, and we all talked with the phone right up next to our heads. Fast forward three years after I bought an iPhone. I kept my iPhone in the same pocket in my pants. And one day, in the interior of my thigh muscle, a very strange extremely fast-rhythmic pulsing would occur. I first thought it was one of those muscle spasms that would go away, but it went on for over a week non-stop. Then into two weeks. It was strange. So, I looked at all the possibilities it could be. I narrowed it down to my phone, after doing some research

into how cell phones work. I then realized that the pulses from the phone had somehow entrained my muscles to pulse when the the phone was sending out it's signal to the nearest tower. I was deeply disturbed, but more annoyed that I had a rhythmic pulse in my inner thigh that I had no idea of it would go away. So that led me to learning to keep my phone away from my body, and as it turns out, it's in the phones' operating instructions to keep the phone away from the body. I wondered why it had this guideline, which led me to more and more scientific studies, spanning many years (including Dr. Carlo's studies for the industry). I wondered how much more microwave radiation am I exposing myself and my family to, thinking initially that this was a harmless technology. I am a curious person by nature, so I had to follow-through with the research. It was around that time that I started to experience heart palpitations and trouble sleeping, which I had never experienced before. I'll get to what I found was the cause later. After thoroughly researching the work of Martin Blank, and Henry Li, I acquired an electro-smog meter. I realized my wifi router, my dvd player, printers, and a host of other electronic devices in my living room, along with the four laptops (and corresponding bluetooth devices in my house were all sending out their own signals, night and day. Our phones were left on and charging next to our beds. I realized I was doing all the wrong things with this technology. We changed our behavior overnight. No more phones under pillow or falling asleep with the iPad on the stomach. No more leaving the wifi on all night. Changing our behavior to more safely live with this tech seems like the only option. I live in a condo, however, where we are also exposed to our neighbors wifi and other microwave signals. I ended up figuring out how to hard-wire my entire condo. That did help with my sleep, but not that much. I was still reading a strong signal from directly below my bedroom/workstation, where I work from all day long and sleep at night. I bought an electrosmog meter to see if I had missed any outstanding sources of radiation. I could control the amount of microwaves I was exposing my family to, but not the neighbors. Regarding my sleep problems and heart palpitations: it turns out my new neighbor had just installed a new wifi setup with two strong microwave signals directly below my bed, which I was being exposed to 24 hours a day. I asked her if she could turn off one of them, and she did (Comcast installs both signals by default when setting up, and only switches off the second signal if instructed by the user), and I saw an immediate improvement in my heart palpitations, and my sleep patterns were not noticeably disturbed. So just cutting down on the amount of microwave exposure has helped my health, but I realize that we should not be exposing ourselves to non-ionizing microwave radiation at the frequencies and duration we currently are. I've had to delve more into the community when my son (whom I hadn't told any of this to at the time) kept coming home with headaches and needing to sleep, which was uncharacteristic of him. I took a tour of this classrooms, and noted that some rooms had industrial strength wifi routers. I made a connection, and read the bioiniatitive report that the symptoms my son was exhibiting were consistent with the data levels in the studies. I became concerned that if it's affecting my child, wifi and microwave radiation in our Framingham schools is a threat to our children, and have proposed to the schools that we use the precautionary principle and stick with wired connections, rather than wifi. I have taken measurements in his school and determined that the levels our children are being exposed to is causing cellular damage to our children, which will ultimately affect their learning ability. We're

already seeing a correlation between the unleashing of wireless technology in schools and test scores lowering across the board. I inquired about wifi with the Framingham superintendent's' office, and I've proposed removing wifi to principal Patrick Johnson at Walsh, his CTO George Carpenter, and Superintendent Stacy Scott, and his CTO Alan Graham, and have received a reply, rather than an opinion, and ultimately forwarded the decision on this matter to the Framingham Board of Health (Chaired by Mike Hugo), which agreed after I presented to them, on the record that this is valid public health issue. We even had more than 50 people attend our international panel of experts here in Framingham who all testified that wifi is dangerous to children and needs to be removed. It was then that I found so many others that were experiencing the same things I was, coming from all over the state, and the country, even. I realized that this was more than just an isolated incident, and it's way bigger than just me and my family. I know that industry dollars and opinion are the norm, and that if one looks at the cursory data without digging in to find the facts, that it seems all but proven that wifi is safe, which is not the case, and I have facts from many reputable publicly available sources that I can cite. This matter is being dealt with in other towns in an thoughtful way (and in contrary to the telecom industry's wishes), and I'm hoping that we in Framingham and Massachusetts act intelligently and cautiously in this case. Waiting until the health effects are 100% proven is what the industry is counting on, but informed and intelligent citizenry sees through their profit-before-health attitude. We need to keep wired technology in schools, and pull out the industrial wifi that's exposing our children to known health hazards. I cannot rest until our children are safe. Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions. Sincerely, Chuck Matzker

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