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September 1, 2013

Comments on Notice of Inquiry, ET Docket No. 13-84

Exposure limits for radio frequency radiation should be more restrictive than the current limits.

The current exposure limits were established assuming intermittent exposure to RF radiation, not the continuous and pervasive exposure that humans are now subject to. I would also venture a guess that the current limits did not consider that people are exposed for RF radiation from multiple "safe" sources at one time. The current exposure limits were also established by scientists and engineers, not by medical doctors, and considered only the thermal effects of RF radiation on the human body. A search of medical research reveals that there multiple non-thermal effects of RF radiation, including but not limited to increased oxidative stress (a common mechanism of aging and disease), weakening of cell membrane and the disruption of the nutrient/waste transfer across cellular membranes, and the alteration of the T-cell/lymphocyte ratio in human blood which adversely affects the body's immune response. Other concerns under investigation are possible damage to the DNA in mitochondria, the powerhouse of all cells for energy production, and the disruption of healthy cardiac function.

A growing number of people have been identified as Electromagnetically Hypersensitive (EHS) as the result of exponentially increasing exposures to RF radiation in the course of normal, daily life. I am one of those people. I experience tinnitus, headaches and head pressure, cognitive difficulties, and heart palpitations in proximity to cell phone towers, Wi-Fi systems, and personal wireless devices such as cell phones, laptops, iPads, and cordless phones. I sold my house and moved to a more remote location to escape the radiation from a cell phone base station which hindered my sleep and caused me great discomfort in my own home. My professional life and income-producing capability have been disrupted because I am unable to work in a conventional office setting. My time in public places, like the public library, retail establishments, restaurants is cut short because of the physical discomfort I feel in the presence of Wi-Fi. I alter my driving route to and from home to minimize my exposure to cell phone towers. I am unable to travel because of the Wi-Fi systems on planes and trains and in hotels, and because of the widespread use of personal wireless devices on planes, trains, and in airports and train stations.

My 12 year old daughter is also EHS. She experiences cognitive difficulties, headaches, nausea, muscle weakness, and hot flashes when at school where there is Wi-Fi and the frequent daily use of wireless devices. Her immune system is affected by RF radiation also, and last school year, she missed a total of 30 days of school because of recurrent infections that none of her classmates contracted, just her. When she is out of school for the 3 months of summer break, her symptoms disappear and she does not get sick.

Exposure limits for RF radiation should be more restrictive. The revising of the current limits should involve medical doctors, familiar with current medical research, who understand the non-thermal biological effects of RF radiation on the human body. The limits should be established with human health, not corporate profits, in mind.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments and I hope the FCC will act on them with conscience and integrity.

Sincerely,

Janice R. Olch, Santa Fe, NM

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