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MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Commissioner Kyprianou
Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection
European Commission
Rue de la Loi, 200
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27th November 2006

I am writing to you regarding council recommendation 1999/519/EC on the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields. In the 1999 recommendation, the Commission is invited "*to prepare a report within five years, taking into account the reports of the Member States and the latest scientific data and advice*". Seven years later, to the best of my knowledge, we are still waiting for the final report by the Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks.

I have commissioned my own independent research into this topic through the European Parliament's research unit, conducted by Dr Gerard Hyland of the University of Warwick. The research outlines the health risks of EMFs and highlights the importance of adopting the precautionary principle. This is a finding that the Commission's preliminary report appears to endorse in its statement that "*the previous conclusion that ELF fields are possibly carcinogenic, chiefly based on childhood leukaemia results, is still valid*" and "*for neurodegenerative diseases and brain tumours, the link to ELF fields remains uncertain*". In this atmosphere of uncertainty I feel very strongly that the precautionary principle must be strictly adhered to. Dr Hyland also underlines the necessity of departing from current official lines by issuing warnings on the non-thermal effects of radiation used in mobile telephony, as well as warnings on the effects of thermal heating. You can find Dr Hyland's report by following the link on my website; <http://www.carolinelucasmep.org.uk/>

As Professor James Bridges, chair of the EU Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health risks, pointed out at the Third Mobile Communications seminar which took place on November 20th, research is currently focused on finding about more about what we already know rather than looking at the unknown. This strongly suggests that at present scientific investigation on this issue is by no means advanced enough to adopt anything but a precautionary approach. He mentioned the poor quality and the poor coordination of recent research on the health impact of EMFs which again supports my argument that a precautionary approach is the only safe way to approach this matter.

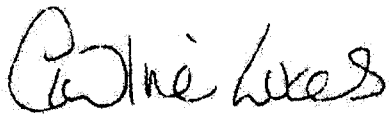
It therefore seems that in order to be truly reflective of the acknowledged state of scientific data and advice, the forthcoming report must call for a legally binding directive on this matter, and in particular, the introduction of precautionary minimum safety distances from sources of electromagnetic fields. The distances must be higher than those set out in the Council Directive of 1999 which troublingly set out limits less strict than those already existing in Sweden, Luxembourg and Italy.

The report should also take up Professor Bridges' point about the limited scope of research to date, calling for a more coordinated strategy and a wider investigation into the fullest range of possible effects. Although it should go without saying, I trust that you will be able to provide assurances of the total independence of the research used in the report and testify that it has been conducted in the public interest rather than in those of the mobile communications industry.

Finally, I should be grateful if you would also confirm the expected publication date for the final report.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter,

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caroline Lucas', written in a cursive style.

Caroline Lucas MEP