



March, 2009

Issues covered in this report

- [1\) RRT conference update](#)
- [2\) EU Workshop, Brussels –11th & 12 February, 2009](#)
- [3\) The danger of relay antennas to health finally recognized!](#)
- [4\) RRT new trustees and reshuffle](#)
- [5\) US President's Cancer Panel & letter from US Congress of the United States](#)
- [6\) RRT trustee's visit the High Acres Base Station](#)
- [7\) Dr Caroline Lucas, Mike Bell and Eileen O'Connor](#)
- [8\) November, 2008 - Eileen's Interview on Russian TV & latest news report](#)
- [9\) Further important developments](#)

News update from the UK Radiation Research Trust (RRT)

In September last year delegates from around the world heard about new research and debated a range of issues relating to electromagnetic radiation at the RRT's conference; '*Electromagnetic fields and health – a global issue.*'

Dr Stephen Brook, a GP in Swindon, Wilshire, and medical advisor to ES-UK attended the RRT conference and recently contributed some thoughts on the important RRT event - Quote: "I believe this conference has been of great service in highlighting a number of important issues which, while provoking and sustaining deeply polarised views, demand serious and urgent attention. We have only seen the beginning in the investigation of the links between health and EM radiation; meanwhile many lives are at stake."

1) The RRT conference website is due to be uploaded with PowerPoint presentations soon and a book of proceedings will be made available for purchase. Please keep a look out on: <http://www.radiationresearch.org/conference/>



Dr Ian Gibson, Labour MP and trustee for the Radiation Research Trust extended a warm welcome, inviting guests to join him for dinner at the Palace of Westminster in celebration of the 1st RRT conference.

Photograph taken at Westminster Monday 8th September, 2008

Photograph of Dr Ian Gibson MP and RRT members Eileen, Mike and Brian with scientists at the Palace of Westminster



“The conference was extremely successful in gathering some of the World’s leading speakers and organisations with expertise in electromagnetic radiation, sparking debate on public policy and the precautionary approach. Now we need to collectively agree on the way forward, filling in the gaps in scientific research and whilst doing this, looking at ways to keep the public informed of potential risks with appropriate precautionary advice.”

Since September there continue to be new developments. This short news update from the RRT aims to keep you informed.

The RRT website is currently undergoing further development and will be including two important new topics based on the legal and political approach to EMF radiation, watch this space!

www.radiationresearch.org



2) EU Workshop, Brussels

This was the third visit by the Radiation Research Trust to the EU Commission in Brussels; members of the RRT have previously attended meetings with EU officials and Mike Bell and Eileen O'Connor attended the previous workshop in 2006.

RRT trustee Dr Caroline Lucas MEP chaired the opening session of the 2009 event and Eileen presented at the workshop on EMF and Health: Science and Policy to address public concerns at the European Commission (DG Health and Consumers and DG Enterprise and Industry) in Brussels on 11 – 12 February, the title of Eileen's presentation is "why people are worried about EMF: a UK perspective".

All EU workshop presentations are available now online at:
http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_risk/ev_20090211_en.htm?e

You can also download Eileen's EU PowerPoint presentation with the words from each slide on a word document with a white background in order to make it easier to print.

Go to: [Text](#)
[Slides](#)

The aim of the workshop was to discuss and identify the expectations of stakeholders in view of the latest scientific assessments and to generate a constructive dialogue involving services from the European Commission, members of the European Parliament, scientists and other stakeholders. Ultimately, the workshop should generate conclusions that help orient the policy process. Eileen presented on 12th February - Session 4 ("*Positions from the stakeholders*") this session was reserved for the presentation of the positions and wishes of the various stakeholders: workers, concerned citizens (groups of hypersensitive people and environment & health NGO), mobile manufacturers and telecom operators. It also touched upon the issue of risk communication. RRT Chairman, Brian Stein attended the meeting and joined in the debate.

3) The potential danger of relay antennas to health finally recognized!

The Crown Court of Nanterre, sentenced the company Bouygues Telecom to pay compensation costs and ordered the removal of the mast. The authorisation was given for psychological distress suffered by the residents and declares that, after a period of four months counting from the announcement of the present decision, the penalty that accompanies the sentence to remove the installation pronounced by the Crown Court is fixed at a sum of 500€ (five hundred euros) per day of delay. See further details below:



"Judgement Versailles Court of Appeal 4 February 2009 : ANALYSIS"

[Copy of ruling](#)

Also read enclosed vpress release about an appeal court judgement in France:

Residents living next to a phone mast vs. the mobile phone company Bouygues Telecom.

The danger of relay antennas to health finally recognized!

The Greens Senators and Senators welcomed the decision of the Versailles Court of Appeal to order the dismantling of an antenna relay Bouygues Telecom in Tassin la Demi-lune in the Rhone .

This decision comes to confirm the condemnation pronounced by the Court of Nanterre in opposition to the corporation Bouygues Telecom considering that the presence of an antenna relay of mobile communication nearby of dwellings constitutes an abnormal disturbance of neighbourhood reparable by the dismantling of the antenna.

This ruling gives legal recognition to the risks posed by the masts for mobile phones on human health, which may result in serious disorders such as cancers.

The decision rests in particular on the BIO 2007 Initiative which was created by a group of independent scientists, industrialists and mobile operators, and which requires public authorities of each country to review the exposure standards electromagnetic fields.

It is now up to the Government to take responsibility for setting new standards to protect the health of the population and thus avoid a new health catastrophe from happening.

A second court decision ordered the removal of another phone mast in Châteauneuf-du-Pape France.

The court acknowledged that the mast is a potential health risk; The news was published on the front page of the French newspaper the Vaucluse on Sunday 22nd February, 2009.

Mobile phone relay antennas at Châteauneuf-du-Pape – Judge orders Demolition



The law has decided in favour of the residents living near the relay antennas on grounds of “detriment to view” but also of “a potential health risk”. The pylon 25 metres high therefore has to be dismantled. It’s a first in this region. By taking this decision the Tribunal de Grande Instance (TGI-District Court) of Carpentras made it clear that new phone antennas cannot be installed without proper consideration. At Châteauneuf-du-Pape, the relay phone mast belonging to the mobile operator SFR must be demolished. The judge acknowledged “A potential health risk”.

4) RRT new trustees and reshuffle

The RRT would like to thank Mike Bell for the previous five years leading the RRT as Chairman of the Trust; he has offered his expertise and guidance and spent long hours unpaid working for the charity. He has stepped down as Chairman but will remain involved as a trustee. Brian Stein has taken the reins as the newly appointed Chairman and Eileen has been appointed - Director of the Trust.

It is a great honour and a pleasure to report that the RRT has enrolled political support from two Members of the European Parliament - Liz Lynne MEP and Jill Evans MEP have both accepted invitations to join the RRT in support of the RRT campaign to adopt precautionary approach to wireless technology. We are delighted to enlist the support of highly regarded MEPs which will add strength to the cross party political support already given to the charity from, Dr Ian Gibson, Labour MP, Dr Caroline Lucas, Green Party MEP, Andrew Mitchell, Conservative MP and Willie Rennie Lib Dem MP. We would like to thank them for their continued dedication and commitment.

The RRT is also delighted to report that Graham Philips from Powerwatch UK has accepted an invitation to join us as a trustee and will bring his considerable expertise to the group. Graham will also represent the RRT as a member of the SAGE group.

Jill Evans MEP is the Deputy Leader of Plaid Cymru The Party of Wales, party spokesperson for European and International issues and chair of CND Cymru. She is also a member of the Committee on the Environment and Public Health.

Liz Lynne MEP is the Vice President of the European Parliaments All Party Disability Intergroup and also co-chairman of MEPs against Cancer in the European Parliament.



5) US President's Cancer Panel

Contrary to rumours about Eileen receiving a direct request from President Barack Obama to supply information directly to the US President, the RRT would like to confirm that Eileen hasn't got a hot line to the President, she simply supplied information to the President's Cancer Panel as part of the Panel's "data/information gathering process" the deadline for submissions was 27th January.

Information/research will be reviewed and taken into consideration when the final report is written and submitted to President-elect Obama. The point of submitting comments was to tell the panel what we think about the relationship between nuclear fallout, EMF and other radiation exposures on cancer and the steps the American government should take to reduce them.

The President's Cancer Panel has emailed to confirm receipt of Eileen's information which was supplied on behalf of the Radiation Research Trust. The Cancer Panel said the goal of the panel is to produce a final report in PDF form by mid-November. The reports then begin the hard-copy printing process and should be available for mail distribution by January. The President's Cancer Panel also confirmed that the report will be given to President Obama's Health Advisory Committees for his information, as well as to the Directors of both the NIH and NCI and their respective Advisory Boards.

The role of the President's Cancer Panel is to monitor the development and execution of activities of the US National Cancer Program, and report directly to President-elect Obama. This year the panel are examining the issue of cancer and the environment and on January 27th, they hosted a public meeting in Phoenix, AZ on nuclear fallout, electromagnetic fields and other radiation exposures and cancer. During the meeting they heard testimony from invited scientific experts as well as the public. The focus on the meeting was:

- * Health risks associated with increased exposure to ionizing radiation used for medical diagnostics and treatment
- * Gaps in research focused on the link between cancer and nuclear waste, electromagnetic fields, and radiation
- * Health risks associated with environmental radiation exposures

This panel offered a crucial opportunity to promote broader policies and programs to mitigate EMF, nuclear and radiation exposures that increase risk of cancer. The Trust took this as an opportunity to offer details on our concerns about phone masts, mobile phones and wifi.

The Radiation Research Trust hope the President's Cancer Panel takes the EMF issue seriously and draws this very important emerging health issue to President Obama's attention.



Please see enclosed submission and news report:

[Cancer Panel Agenda](#)

[Cancer Panel Submission](#)

Phone masts health fears: US president asks for views of Midland woman Jan 29 2009 by Neil Elkes, Birmingham Mail [Article Here](#)

Letter to Kevin Martin Chair of the FCC from Dennis Kucinich, Chair of Domestic Policy Subcommittee, Congress of the United States.

Letter regarding White Spaces unlicensed operation in the TV Broadcast Bands and the FCC's adoption of rules to authorize use of White Spaces spectrum for wireless devices operating in the home will lead to repeated, chronic, long-term exposure of individuals, at all age levels, and to more frequencies and quantities of radiofrequency radiation at very close range than is currently the case. Whether these exposures pose human health risks is under investigation by members of the scientific and public health research communities for more information download letter dated November 2008:

<http://domesticpolicy.oversight.house.gov/story.asp?ID=2269>

6) RRT trustee's visit the High Acres Base Station, Kingswinford with Professor Olle Johansson and Liz Lynn MEP on Friday 30th January, 2009

Brian Stein and Eileen O'Connor visited the High Acres Base Station in Kingswinford on Friday 30th January in order to offer support for the residents living in the cancer cluster around the base station.

The RRT invited one of the worlds leading experts Professor Olle Johansson from the Karolinska Institute, Sweden to talk to Liz Lynne MEP and the residents about the health risks associated with electromagnetic fields.

Liz Lynne supported the resident's calls for the precautionary approach and said "phone masts should not be placed near schools, hospitals or heavily populated areas, until we can find a safer way forward."

Photo of Brian Stein, Eileen O'Connor, Liz Lynne MEP and Professor Olle Johansson with Kingswinford residents at the High Acre base station



The meeting with Professor Olle Johansson and Liz Lynne was extremely beneficial as Professor Johansson is a world leading expert on Electro sensitivity (EHS). Liz Lynne is the Vice President of the European Parliaments All Party Disability Intergroup which is of considerable importance as we hope she can help to encourage the EU to adopt disability rights and equal opportunities for people suffering with ES in line with Sweden.

Sweden's recognition of people who suffer with EHS fall within a proper definition of disability, therefore the condition is officially recognised as a functional impairment, when being in contact with EMF sources which can include mobile phones, wifi and phone masts.

[Professor Johansson's report on EHS #1014: "Electrosensitivity in Sweden" by Olle Johansson](#)

[Swedish professor joins Kingswinford anti-mobile phone mast protesters - Feb 3 2009 by Steve Bradley, Birmingham Mail](#)

7) 22nd January, 2008 - Mike Bell and Eileen O'Connor joined the Green Party Members of European Parliament in celebration of the achievements of the Green Party

Picture RRT trustee's Dr Caroline Lucas, Mike Bell and Eileen O'Connor



On January 22nd, the UK's two Green Party Members of the European Parliament were joined by members of the many organisations and campaigns they have worked with over the past 10 years in a celebration of achievements at London's Imagination Gallery. Both Caroline Lucas, MEP for South East England and Jean Lambert, MEP for London wanted to thank people for their support and hard work, as well as highlight what has been delivered thanks to Greens in the European Parliament. Almost 200 people attended, from across the human rights, health, social justice, peace, environment, trade union, animal welfare, workers rights and consumer protection sectors, making a very enjoyable evening.

8) November, 2008 - Eileen's Interview on Russian TV

Enclosed link to Russian NTV news item on mobile phones:

<http://news.ntv.ru/144177/> - shown twice on Wednesday 12th November and Saturday 15th November, 'primetime'. The news item includes an interview with Professor Oleg Grigoriev, *Vice-Chairman* Russian National Committee on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection and UK Radiation Research Trustee, Eileen O'Connor amongst others.

NTV Broadcasting Company is the largest non-governmental TV-network in Russia. It covers the audience of approx.100 million people in countries of former Soviet



Union. It is also the main Russian language channel broadcasted all over the world via satellite. NTV Russia cover all main political and social events every day and give the comments of the top newsmakers in NTV newscasts throughout the day. NTV has interviewed George Bush, Condoleezza Rice , John Ashcroft, James Baker, Tony Blair, Mikhail Gorbachev, Vladimir Putin, Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Ariel Sharon, Mikhail Saakashvili, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Paul McCartney, Madonna and many others.

Picture taken Monday 8th September, 2008 at the Palace of Westminster



Included in photo - Professor Oleg Grigoriev, Vice- Chairman of Russian National Committee of Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection, Eileen O'Connor, Professor Yury Grigoriev, Chairman of Russian National Committee of Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection, Mike Bell and Brian Stein.

Professor Yury GRIGORIEV, Chairman of the Russian National Committee on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection, Russia. Professor Grigoriev gave a powerful presentation at the September Radiation Research Trust Conference with regards to children. He said: "The potential risk to children's health is very high and a completely new problem. Use of mobile phones for those under 18 or pregnant should be restricted. Children have a unique vulnerability as they grow and develop; there are "windows of susceptibility" periods when their organs and systems may be particularly sensitive to the effect of certain environmental threats. The existing standards cannot guarantee the safe, healthy development of the next generation."

[Russian news agency report](#)

9) Further important developments

October 2008 - Professor Olle Johansson and Eileen invited to Norway to talk about Electromagnetic fields and health concerns

Friday 17th of October, FELO (The Norwegian association for electro hypersensitive) and NMF (Green Warriors of Norway) arranged a meeting in Bergen, Norway. Professor Olle Johansson and Eileen O'Connor presented at an open meeting, about non-ionising radiation. Professor Johansson presented the scientific facts and Eileen presented her personal story about developing breast cancer after living near a phone mast. People suffering with EHS travelled from Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Norway to hear the presentations and join in the public debate.

Photo of representatives



French government clamps down on mobile phone usage by children: The French government has become the first European government to publicly announce a proposal for an outright ban on some aspect of mobile phone usage based exclusively on potential risks to health. The proposed bill could lead to a ban on advertising of mobile phones to children under 12. It will also be illegal for sales of phones that are intended for use by children under the age of 6, and it will be compulsory for all handsets to be sold with accompanying earphones.

While similar to the recommendation of other countries (Toronto's Department of Public Health has advised that children under eight should only use mobiles in emergencies and teenagers should limit calls to less than 10 minutes, the Russian Ministry of Health says that young people under 18 should not use the devices, and Israel's Health Ministry has also advised caution) this is the first recommendation to have made its way into proposed national legislation.



<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/french-government-bans-advertising-of-mobiles-to-children-1299673.html>

Finnish safety agency also recommends caution: Also earlier this month (January 9th) the Finnish Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) issued a position paper recommending children's mobile phone use should be restricted by, for example, the use of text messages over calls, parental limitation of the number of calls and duration, and the use of hands free devices.

http://www.stuk.fi/stuk/tiedotteet/en_GB/news_527/

Brussels region sets three volts per metre standard: A hard fought court case in the Belgium Constitutional Court has resulted in success for the Brussels regional government, which had its proposal to introduce a three volts per metre as the valid standard for exposure to electromagnetic microwaves in the region upheld. Opponents argued that only the federal authority had to power to legislate on standards aimed ultimately at protecting human health. The Belgium federal standard remains at 20.6V/m, while the current WHO guidelines are 58V/m. Responding to the Court's decision the Brussels Environment Minister Evelyne Huytebroeck commented; "In the absence of a scientific consensus, the principle of precaution dictates that we should take measures to avoid the risk of irreversible damage to the environment and to health".

http://www.next-up.org/parlement_europeen.php#1

http://www.powerwatch.org.uk/news/20081113_blood_brain_barrier.asp

The RRT congratulates the constitutional court in Brussels for dismissing the phone companies and government appeals in order to avoid the risk of irreversible damage to the environment and public health. This is a step in the right direction however; the file on this subject cannot be closed on this issue as 3 V/m may not go far enough based on many scientific reports including Salford and Persson's most recent paper showing that it is the lowest exposure levels that do the most damage to the blood-brain barrier. The time has come to call for a complete scientific review in favour of adopting new biological based guidelines. The limit values should be regularly reviewed and adjusted in light of new scientific studies in order to protect public health and the environment.



Paolo Vecchia, Chairman for ICNIRP presented at the Radiation Research Trust conference in September, 2008 and said the ICNIRP guidelines are not mandatory prescriptions for safety, the “last word” on the issue or defensive walls for Industry or others. This statement makes it clear that the decision is political; the policy makers to take urgent action to adopt biologically based guidelines and not rely on thermal levels such as the 1998 ICNIRP recommendations.

European Parliament votes to recommend tighter safety standards on mobile phones: Just a few days after the RRT conference came news that the European Parliament voted 522 to 16 to recommend tighter safety standards for mobile phones. The Parliament stated; “The limits on exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMFs) which have been set for the general public are obsolete.” The Parliament called on the EU Council to amend its current recommendation for all equipment producing emissions in the 0.1 MHz to 300 GHz frequency range, which includes mobile phones and other wireless devices. It said that product manufacturers should be legally obliged to prove their devices are harmless and that health threats should be “anticipated and countered”.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in this very important issue.