



September 20, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Pai,

On behalf of our fifty-two supporting organizations and their members, I write to express our profound dismay at the actions your agency is taking to accelerate the deployment of 5G infrastructure across this country without proper consideration of the emerging science linking exposure to RF microwave radiation with serious biological harm. We believe these actions violate one of the agency's primary responsibilities – to protect the American people – by pushing ahead with an industry-driven agenda that will result in the widespread involuntary exposure of Americans to a proven health threat in their own homes without their knowledge or consent.

We recognize that your agency lacks both the ability and the authority to undertake a rigorous scientific review of hundreds of independent, peer-reviewed, published studies that demonstrate clear evidence of the propensity for RF microwave radiation to interfere with normal biological development and function. We also recognize that it is the long-standing position of the wireless industry that their products and services are completely safe. However, neither of these factors prevent or absolve the agency from exercising its most basic responsibility to take into account the potential threat to human health as it embraces new technologies.

We would like to draw your attention to several recent studies that should cause the agency to pause in its full-throated promotion of 5G. The first is the recently completed (but not yet finalized) \$25-million dollar study by the National Toxicology Program of the National Institutes of Health. This study was supposed to determine once and for all if radiation from cell phones can cause cancer. A panel of independent experts who reviewed the study's findings concluded

that indeed it could, and did, and they deemed the findings “clear evidence.”¹ This study came on the heels of another study from the prestigious Ramazzini Institute in Italy (partially funded by the U. S. Government) which found similar biological harm from distant cell towers at levels lower than current FCC cell tower radiation limits.²

These are just two of many hundreds of studies conducted since the FCC last updated its exposure guidelines for RF microwave radiation in 1996 - guidelines which, as you know, are based solely on thermal effects and do not consider biological effects at all.

As the father of young children, you must know that children are particularly vulnerable to all kinds of harmful environmental exposures. You also know that the deployment of millions of new 5G antennas in neighborhoods across America will inevitably result in some antennas being located in close proximity to homes which house families with small children. Authorizing the involuntary chronic exposure of millions of American children to RF microwave radiation without knowing - or seeking to ascertain - how their lives may be impacted is an irresponsible and inexcusable action on the part of the FCC.

We strongly urge you to immediately delay any action that facilitates or expedites the deployment of new 5G infrastructure until such time as competent, independent public health professionals have had the opportunity to review the relevant scientific studies as they relate to the deployment of millions of new antennas, and can assure the American people that the deployment of these antennas in their neighborhoods will not result in an adverse impact on their health and safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DAW', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Douglas A. Wood
Executive Director

DAW:nl

CC: Members of the Senate Commerce Committee
Members of the House Commerce Committee

¹ See https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/ntp/about_ntp/trpanel/2018/march/peerreview20180328_508.pdf

² See <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0013935118300367>