

Press Release

EMBARGOED UNTIL WEDNESDAY, MAY 15 8:00 AM EASTERN TIME

For release: May 15, 2019

Contact: Doug Wood, Americans for Responsible Technology (516) 883-0887

Citizens Push Back Against 5G Deployment Citing Risks to Human Health

Studies Prove Constant Exposure to Wireless Radiation is Harmful, Especially for Children

Grassroots organizations opposed to the constant, involuntary exposure to wireless radiation resulting from the deployment of small cell antennas are demonstrating today in front of retail wireless establishments in coordinated actions from New York to California. The groups claim there is sufficient scientific evidence to prove harm from long-term exposure to wireless radiation, and they are asking the wireless companies to voluntarily cease and desist the deployment of 5G-enabled "small cell" antennas in close proximity to homes and apartments until long-term exposure to wireless radiation has been proven safe.

"My children are being exposed to wireless radiation every day and night, day after day, week after week," says Debbie Persampire, co-organizer of 5G Awareness in Huntington New York. A small cell antenna was erected on her property less than 70 feet from her children's bedroom. "We know for certain that chronic, low level exposure to wireless radiation can interfere with normal brain development and also increase the risk of cancer. What parent would allow their children to be exposed to that?"

Hundreds of published, peer-reviewed studies have linked exposure to radio-frequency wireless radiation with a long list of acute and chronic health problems. While wireless companies claim their technology meets the exposure guidelines of the FCC, critics point out that those recommended guidelines were developed in the 1980s, and are based only on thermal (heating) effects, not the biological impacts that are corroborated in hundreds of recent scientific studies.

"The long-outdated FCC limits are based on short-term exposures with regard to heating tissue," says Dr. David Carpenter, professor and former Dean of the University at Albany School of Public Health. "The agency's position is *'if your body doesn't heat when you're in a Wi-Fi*

environment, there's no problem.' This ignores an enormous body of evidence from scientists around the world showing multiple adverse health effects."

Critics of the small cell deployment cite a 10-year, \$30-million-dollar study recently conducted by the National Institutes of Health to determine if exposure to the radiation from wireless communication devices could cause human health problems. The study found "clear evidence of carcinogenicity."

Dr. Ronald Melnick, former senior toxicologist at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences who helped design the NIH study, says "We should no longer assume that any current or future wireless technology, including 5G, is safe without adequate testing."

"It is widely acknowledged that children are more vulnerable to the impact of environmental exposures than adults," says Patti Wood, Executive Director of Grassroots Environmental Education and a recipient of the National Children's Environmental Health Excellence Award from the EPA. "Because of their size and still developing bodies, children are disproportionately exposed to and affected by any kind of chemical or radiation exposure. It's unconscionable that we would intentionally expose them to a proven health risk."

Rallies are planned for more than thirty cities and towns across the country. For an up-to-date listing of rallies, please visit 5GCrisis.com/day-of-action.

For a listing of independent, peer-reviewed scientific studies linking exposure to wireless radiation to biological harm, visit AmericansForResponsibleTech.org/scientific-studies.

About Americans for Responsible Technology

Americans for Responsible Technology is a national coalition of more than 90 grassroots organizations committed to promoting new technologies that protect the health, safety, security, privacy and property values of Americans. The coalition is managed by Grassroots Communications, a non-profit organization.

