

# MINUTES DODGE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting of the Dodge County Planning Commission was called to order by Vice-Chairman, Jeff Wacker at 4:30 P.M., Tuesday, February 19, 2019 in the Board of Supervisors Room on 3rd Floor of the Courthouse, Fremont, Nebraska. The following members were present: Fooken, Giesselmann, Hansen, Rolf, Taylor and Wacker. Absent: Brabec, Ruzicka and Schole.

The meeting was declared legally convened, due to Public Notice given and is considered to be an Open Meeting.

Wacker asked the board if anyone had any conflict of interest with the applications that they would be hearing. None was recorded.

Motion was made by **Rolf** to accept the Minutes of the January 15, 2019 meeting as mailed. Seconded by **Hansen**. Motion carried by voice vote with the following voting yes: Giesselmann, Hansen, Rolf, Taylor, Wacker and Fooken. Absent: Brabec, Ruzicka and Schole.

**Public Hearing:** Consider request of Jeffrey Mitties of 1753 County Rd. 2, North Bend, NE 68649 to obtain a Conditional Use Permit to install a 250 ft. Self-Support Tower as per Article 25, **Supplemental District Regulations** Section 4. Radio, Television and Wireless Communication Towers and Facilities located in E ½ SW ¼ Section 30, Township 18 North, Range 5 East in Union Township, Zoning District A-1, Intensive Ag.

Vice-Chairman Wacker declared the Public Hearing open.

# Testimony:

For: Jeffrey Skinner, representative for Horvath Communications and the landowner, Jeffrey Mitties were present to explain the request. Skinner stated that a new tower was necessary to improve the coverage. Originally during the bag phone days, the towers were analog and could not carry data. They had a wider range of coverage for just using a phone for calls, but when the towers are now going to digital and do not have the length of coverage that the old analog towers had. He said this tower would be 250 feet self-supporting with a chain link fence with a barb wire strand at the top and be lighted at night. There will not be a white light or strobe. They have FAA approval and the tower will have more than the one foot to one foot setback. Rolf asked how many miles would this tower cover? Skinner stated the analog tower would cover 30 miles. He added that the digital signal does not travel as far and would have a reduction in

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signal strength. He stated that inside a building, it would reach 5-7 miles. Rolf asked if there would be more cell towers in the future? Skinner stated the number of towers would not change a whole lot due to the 5G coming.

No additional questions or comments were made.

#### Against:

**Karen Bowman** spoke on behalf of Marcie Johnson who lives near the proposed cell tower. She stated that Johnson opposes this location and wants it relocated either to 1753 or 1749 County Road 2. She went on to say that Johnson was due to retire in July and would be coming back from Arizona. She spoke of the dangers of living near a cell tower. **Fooken** moved to receive the letter from Johnson against the cell tower location. **Rolf** seconded. Motion carried by voice vote with all present voting yes. Absent: Brabec, Ruzicka and Schole.

**Jeffrey Mitties** responded to Bowman's comments. He stated the cell tower was a ½ mile west and not in line of Johnson's sight. The location is away from most people's property and not in line of sight.

**Jeffrey Skinner** mentioned that he had presented the board with American Cancer information regarding cancer and the cell towers. **Rolf** moved to place this report on file. Seconded by **Fooken**. Motion carried by voice vote with all present voting yes. Absent: Brabec, Ruzicka and Schole.

No additional comments were made.

Motion to close the public hearing was made by **Fooken** and seconded by **Giesselmann**. Motion carried by voice vote. Those voting yes: Hansen, Rolf, Taylor, Wacker, Fooken and Giesselmann. Absent: Brabec, Ruzicka and Schole.

#### **Possible Action:**

Motion was made by **Rolf** to recommend approval of the Conditional Use Permit based on the Conditional Use conforms to the intent and purpose of the regulations and the use conforms to regulations of the district which it is located. Seconded by **Hansen**. Motion carried by roll call vote. Those voting yes: Rolf, Taylor, Wacker, Fooken, Giesselmann and Hansen. Absent: Brabec, Ruzicka and Schole. The applicant was advised the County Board of Supervisors would hear his request on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 9:30 A.M.

**Public Hearing**: Consider request of Lee & Pamela Camanzind, Land Owners of 10406 State St., Omaha, NE 68122 to obtain a Conditional Use Permit for a new Livestock Feeding Operation (Poultry) 3,800 Animal Units as per Article 13. **Conditional Uses** 2.19 located in S. ½ NE ¼ Section 15, Township 18 North, Range 8 East in Nickerson Township, Zoning District A-2, General Ag.

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Vice Chairman, Wacker declared the public hearing to be opened.

#### Testimony:

For: Case and Jocelyn Camenzind were present to explain their request, stating that they were 5<sup>th</sup> generation farmers learning to be a good steward of the land. Jocelyn stated that the family started out with baby chicks and found that they were as popular as the family dog. She stated that they will be living 1800 feet from the barns. Wacker asked if the application is the same. Case Camenzind stated yes except that they were asking for 8 barns and 2 windbreaks. Giesselmann asked what kind of trees? Camenzind stated that the NRD was designing the array. Giesselmann asked if they would place cedar trees? Camenzind stated he wanted a grouping of different trees that grow quick. Taylor asked what height of trees? Camenzind stated they would be varying heights.

**Jessica Kolterman** presented a pamphlet on setbacks of poultry houses and went on to read a highlighted passage "a properly managed poultry farm is not a threat to the environment and does not cause pollution or environmental concerns for either its neighbors or the local community at large." The poultry will be an asset to the area. The Camenzinds will be working closely with the NRD using the best practices for the land and the facility.

Andy Scholting with Nutrient Advisors stated he was working very closely with the Camenzinds applying for 8 barns with 1980 foot set back. The adjoining residence has signed a waiver of distance and have included a diagram of the tree buffers. There will be a row of cedar trees, rows of 3 different trees and an evergreen-type that grows slower. The DEQ has been to the site again and even though no permit is required, the Camenzinds are required to voluntary obtain and when they are permitted by the state, they are required to meet all the standards. Nutrient Advisors act as the 3<sup>rd</sup> party in the application and require the growers to maintain high standard. He went on to say the Matrix recorded 114 points. He presented the board with the 96% Odor Footprint showing that the residence west of the proposed poultry barns is not in that footprint and did sign a waiver of distance. He went on to say the location of the barns was at least ½ mile of runoff before it would enter the Maple Creek.

**Steve Martin**, Executive Director of the Alliance For the Future of Agriculture, previously from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture stated he was involved with Cost Co and Lincoln Premium Poultry from day one. He is responding to a willing partner with the contract for the growers, an attribute to the State of Nebraska. He stated the 8-barn set will create a little over 7 jobs with \$180,000.00 in property and sales tax benefit to the state. He stated he was involved with the development of the Matrix that is used to help people understand the project and also stated that Dodge County was instrumental in approval of the Matrix. He stated he recommends the approval of the project.

#### Against:

John Schauer stated he owns property 1 ½ miles from where the Camenzinds proposed poultry barns. He stated he has a tree farm that has been in business since 1982 and that this poultry barn is in direct conflict with the tree farm. He went on to say that he was first in time and first in right. The area is part of the national Morman Trail and people do not want to come out to his property to smell chicken poop. He asked why the Odor Footprint wasn't 99%. He requested that it should not be put in the middle of 600 residents. He stated conditions he wishes the commission be required of the Camenzinds. They should live on the site permanently and that the conditional use permit should be required to be reviewed every 2 years. They couldn't get a permit in Washington County because of that requirement. He added that trees from the NRD will not be of any height for 4 years before they do any good. Why limit the trees be placed on only 2 sides? He said he did a sampling of the ammonia coming from his current site now and it will increase. He stated he wanted to go on record that he opposes this permit and that it doesn't fit in the area.

Wayne Jacobson lives at 1910 County Rd. N stating he was concerned with the water quality. He stated the water at this site was at least 100 foot down and concerned about the Village of Nickerson population of 300 to 340 who have at least 70% sandpoint wells and is approximately 90 feet lower that the proposed barns and is less than 1 ¼ miles away. How many acres will the 8 barns require? The water will run especially with that much steel roofs that will make the water run even more. They need to consider putting a dam or small dike so that the water will not run down on County Road O. He asked what road they will be coming onto. Wacker stated County Road O, the same road. He asked what they will do with the dead chickens? Wacker stated that they planned on composting. Kolterman stated under roof with one side open.

Nancy O'Connor stated she lives at 2108 County Rd. 21 and stated we have heard about 1, 2, 4 and now 10 barns. Don't know what kind of impact the 8 barns will have.

Mike Williams, Board Certified Independent Consultant of 130 E. 10<sup>th</sup> St., North Bend, NE stated he commended the board on reducing the number of barns to 8 and to require the tree buffer. He stated he has a number of concerns. 1. The State of Nebraska DEQ has had their budget reduced for enforcement and not in a timely manner. He said he wants a 3<sup>rd</sup> party and not Nutrient Advisors to monitor the facility. #2. He stated the road needed maintenance especially with higher traffic degregating the road and needed to work with the township. #3. Air Quality. Looking every 2 years, nothing going on monitoring of the wind or air quality in all directions. #4. Wants the board and the NDOT to make recommendations as to how to deal with all the accidents on Highway 30.

#### For:

**William H. Wrea** who lives at 5987 McCall Lane, Arlington, NE and even though he is a Washington County resident, he stated that we need animal agriculture.

## Against:

Jolene Schauer stated we should not be subjected to this. She said the water, air quality, why is someone else's quality of life better than ours? Poultry applications are not beneficial. She read a statement from a paper, "Poultry World" that poultry produce more environmental issues. Most of the people for this proposal do not live in the area. The Matrix should start at 100 not 75, which in a school setting, a 75 is a low C or a high D. These proposals should be abiding by a stricter set of regs.

Motion to close the public hearing was made by **Fooken** and seconded by **Giesselmann**. Motion carried by voice vote. Those voting yes: Taylor, Wacker, Fooken, Giesselmann, Hansen and Rolf. Absent: Brabec, Ruzicka and Schole.

#### Possible Action:

Motion was made by **Fooken** to recommend approval of the Conditional Use Permit based on the Conditional Use conforms to the intent and purpose of the regulations and the use conforms to regulations of the district which it is located and to **add** a **condition that a tree buffer be put on the east side also**. Seconded by **Taylor**. Motion carried by roll call vote. Those voting yes: Wacker, Fooken, Giesselmann, Hansen, Rolf and Taylor. Absent: Brabec, Ruzicka and Schole. The applicant was advised the County Board would hear his request on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 9:40 A.M.

## **Reorganization of Planning Commission: Election of Officers:**

Motion was made by **Hansen** and seconded by **Giesselmann** to retain the existing officers. Chairman, Brabec; Vice-Chairman, Wacker and Secretary, Allen Rolf. Motion carried by voice vote. Those voting yes: Fooken, Giesselmann, Hansen, and Taylor. Rolf and Wacker abstained. Absent: Brabec, Ruzicka and Schole.

With no further business **Giesselmann** moved to adjourn at <u>5:59 P.M.</u> and seconded by **Hansen.** Motion carried: Giesselmann, Hansen, Rolf, Taylor, Wacker and Fooken. Absent: Brabec, Ruzicka and Schole. The next scheduled meeting will be March 19, 2019 at 4:30 P.M. if business arises.

Respectfully submitted,	
Allen Rolf Secretary, Dodge County Planning Commission	
Dodge County Planning & Zoning Commission	Approval Date

## **STAFF REPORT**

Dodge County Bldg. Insp. & Zoning Dept. Meeting of February 19, 2019

Zoning Signs were placed on the property Thursday, February 14, 2019

**Jeffrey Mitties:** 

The property is located approximately 2 miles north of Hwy 30 on County Road R between County Roads 1 and 2 and approximately 4 miles west of North Bend, NE. The ground is currently in farming with no homes close by.

## Lee & Pamela Camanzind

The property is located approximately ¼ mile west of US Highway 77/275 on County Road O and approximately 1 mile west of Nickerson, NE. I have enclosed a picture of the Stuenkel building site that is to the west of the proposed poultry barns. The Walbridge home is located to the east of the Camanzind ground. The proposed poultry barns will not be in the flood plain. County Road O is maintained by Nickerson Township. Attached to this report is a memo showing traffic counts that were taken by the Dodge County Highway Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Andrews,

Dodge County Zoning Administrator



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# **Cellular Phone Towers**

Cellular (cell) phones first became widely available in the United States in the 1990s, but since then their use has increased dramatically. The widespread use of cell phones has led to cell phone towers being placed in many communities. These towers, also called *base stations*, have electronic equipment and antennas that receive and transmit radiofrequency (RF) signals.

# How do cellular phone towers work?

Cell phone base stations may be free-standing towers or mounted on existing structures, such as trees, water tanks, or tall buildings. The antennas need to be high enough to adequately cover the area. Base stations are usually from 50-200 feet high.

Cell phones communicate with nearby cell towers mainly through radiofrequency (RF) waves, a form of energy in the electromagnetic spectrum between FM radio waves and microwaves. Like FM radio waves, microwaves, visible light, and heat, they are forms of **non-ionizing radiation**. This means they do not directly damage the DNA inside cells, which is how stronger (**ionizing**) types of radiation such as x-rays, gamma rays, and ultraviolet (UV) light are thought to be able to cause cancer.

At very high levels, RF waves can heat up body tissues. (This is the basis for how microwave ovens work.) But the levels of energy used by cell phones and towers are much lower.



When a person makes a cell phone call, a signal is sent from the phone's antenna to the nearest base station antenna. The base station responds to this signal by assigning it an available radiofrequency channel. RF waves transfer the voice information to the base station. The voice signals are then sent to a switching center, which transfers the call to its destination. Voice signals are then relayed back and forth during the call.

# How are people exposed to the energy from cellular phone towers?

As people use cell phones to make calls, signals are transmitted back and forth to the base station. The RF waves produced at the base station are given off into the environment, where people can be exposed to them.

The energy from a cellular phone tower antenna, like that of other telecommunication antennas, is directed toward the horizon (parallel to the ground), with some downward scatter. Base station antennas use higher power levels than other types of land-mobile antennas, but much lower levels than those from radio and television broadcast stations. The amount of energy decreases rapidly as the distance from the antenna increases. As a result, the level of exposure to radio waves at ground level is very low compared to the level close to the antenna.

Public exposure to radio waves from cell phone tower antennas is slight for several reasons. The power levels are relatively low, the antennas are mounted high above ground level, and the signals are transmitted intermittently, rather than constantly.



At ground level near typical cellular base stations, the amount of RF energy is thousands of times less than the limits for safe exposure set by the US Federal Communication Commission (FCC) and other regulatory authorities. It is very unlikely that a person could be exposed to RF levels in excess of these limits just by being near a cell phone tower.

When a cellular antenna is mounted on a roof, it is possible that a person on the roof could be exposed to RF levels greater than those typically encountered on the ground. But even then, exposure levels approaching or exceeding the FCC safety guidelines are only likely to be found very close to and directly in front of the antennas. If this is the case, access to these areas should be limited.

The level of RF energy inside buildings where a base station is mounted is typically much lower than the level outside, depending on the construction materials of the building. Wood or cement block reduces the exposure level of RF radiation by a factor of about 10. The energy level *behind* an antenna is hundreds to thousands of times lower than in front. Therefore, if an antenna is mounted on the side of a building, the exposure level in the room directly behind the wall is typically well below the recommended exposure limits.

# Do cellular phone towers cause cancer?

Some people have expressed concern that living, working, or going to school near a cell phone tower might increase the risk of cancer or other health problems. At this time, there is very little evidence to support this idea. In theory, there are some important points that would argue against cellular phone towers being able to cause cancer.



First, the energy level of radiofrequency (RF) waves is relatively low, especially when compared with the types of radiation that are known to increase cancer risk, such as gamma rays, x-rays, and ultraviolet (UV) light. The energy of RF waves given off by cell phone towers is not enough to break chemical bonds in DNA molecules, which is how these stronger forms of radiation may lead to cancer.

A second issue has to do with wavelength. RF waves have long wavelengths, which can only be concentrated to about an inch or two in size. This makes it unlikely that the energy from RF waves could be concentrated enough to affect individual cells in the body.

Third, even if RF waves were somehow able to affect cells in the body at higher doses, the level of RF waves present at ground level is very low – well below the recommended limits. Levels of energy from RF waves near cell phone towers are not significantly different from the background levels of RF radiation in urban areas from other sources, such as radio and television broadcast stations.

# Studies in people

Very few human studies have focused specifically on cellular phone towers and cancer risk.

In one large study, British researchers compared a group of more than 1,000 families of young children with cancer against a similar group of families of children without cancer. They found no link between a mother's exposure to the towers during pregnancy (based on the distance from the home to the nearest tower and on the amount of energy given off by nearby towers) and the risk of early childhood cancer.



In another study, researchers compared a group of more than 2,600 children with cancer to a group of similar children without cancer. They found that those who lived in a town that could have exposed them to higher than average RF radiation from cellular phone towers in the previous 5 years had a slightly higher risk of cancer, although not of any certain type of cancer (like leukemia or brain tumors). This study estimated the children's possible exposure based on the number of towers in their town and how strong the signals were from the towers. It did not look at actual exposure of any individual child based on how far their home or school was from a tower. This limitation reduces confidence in the results of the study.

One study looked for signs of DNA and cell damage in blood cells as a possible indicator of cancer-causing potential. They found that the damage was no worse in people who lived near a cell phone tower as compared with those didn't.

The amount of exposure from living near a cell phone tower is typically many times lower than the exposure from using a cell phone. About 30 studies have looked at possible links between cell phone use and tumors in people. Most studies to date have not found a link between cell phone use and the development of tumors, although these studies have had some important limitations. This is an area of active research. For more information, see *Cellular Phones*.

# Studies done in the lab

Laboratory studies have looked at whether the types of RF waves used in cell phone communication can cause DNA damage. Most of these studies have supported the idea that the RF waves given off by cell phones and towers don't have enough energy to damage DNA directly. Because of this, it's not clear how cell phones and towers might be able to cause cancer, but research in this area continues.



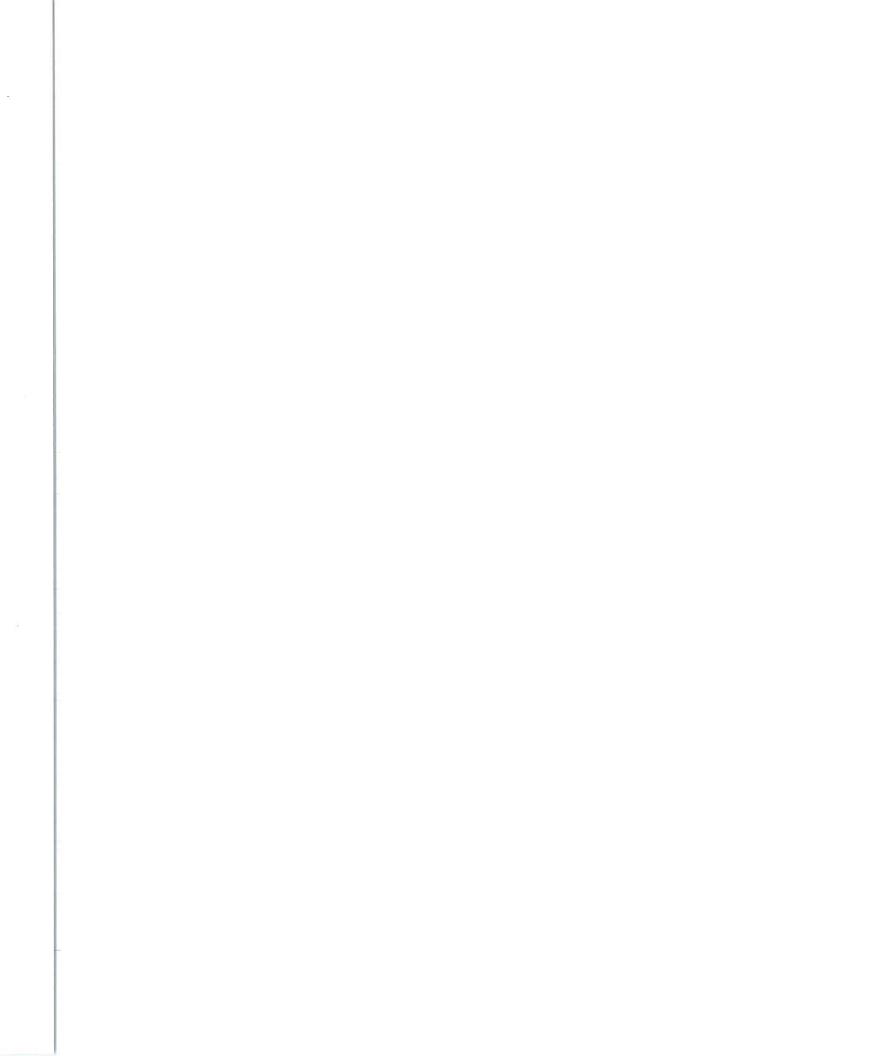
Some scientists have reported that RF waves may produce other effects in human cells (in lab dishes) that might possibly help tumors grow. However, these studies have not been verified, and these effects weren't seen in a study that looked at the blood cells from people living near a cellular phone tower.

Several studies in rats and mice have looked at whether RF energy might promote the development of tumors caused by other known carcinogens (cancer-causing agents). These studies did not find evidence of tumor promotion, but this is still an area of research.

A large study by the US National Toxicology Program (NTP) exposed groups of lab rats and mice to RF energy over their entire bodies for about 9 hours a day, starting before birth and continuing for up to 2 years (which is the equivalent of about 70 years for humans, according to NTP scientists). In a draft report of the final results (released in February 2018), the study found an increased risk of tumors called malignant schwannomas of the heart in male rats exposed to RF radiation. But some aspects of this study make it hard to know just how these results might apply to RF exposure from cell phone towers in people. For example, there was no increased risk among female rats or among male or female mice in the study. The doses of RF radiation in the study were also generally higher than those people are exposed to when using cell phones (much less being near a cell phone tower). The male rats in the study exposed to RF waves also lived longer, on average, than the rats who were not exposed, for unclear reasons. Still, the results add evidence to the idea that the signals used in cell phone communication might potentially impact human health.

# What expert agencies say

About cell phone towers





The 3 expert agencies that usually classify cancer-causing exposures (carcinogens) – the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the National Toxicology Program (NTP), and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – have not classified cell phone towers specifically as to their cancer-causing potential.

The **US Federal Communications Commission** (FCC) has said this about cell phone towers near homes or schools:

"Radiofrequency emissions from antennas used for cellular and PCS [personal communications service] transmissions result in exposure levels on the ground that are typically thousands of times below safety limits. These safety limits were adopted by the FCC based on the recommendations of expert organizations and endorsed by agencies of the Federal Government responsible for health and safety. Therefore, there is no reason to believe that such towers could constitute a potential health hazard to nearby residents or students."

# **About RF radiation**

Some of the agencies that classify cancer-causing exposures have, however, made statements about radiofrequency radiation.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has classified RF fields as "possibly carcinogenic to humans," based on limited evidence of a possible increase in risk for brain tumors among cell phone users, and inadequate evidence for other types of cancer. (For more information on the IARC classification system, see *Known and Probable Human Carcinogens*.) IARC also noted that exposure to the brain from RF fields from cell phone base stations (mounted on roofs or towers) is less than 1/100<sup>th</sup> the exposure to the brain from mobile devices such as cell phones.

The **Environmental Protection Agency** (EPA) states:



"At very high levels, RF energy is dangerous. It can heat the body's tissues rapidly. However, such high levels are found only near certain equipment, such as powerful long-distance transmitters. Cellphones and wireless networks produce RF, but not at levels that cause significant heating. In addition, RF energy decreases quickly over distance. At ground level, exposure to RF from sources like cellphone towers is usually very low.

Some people are concerned about potential health effects, especially on the developing brains and bodies of children. Some studies suggest that heavy long-term use of cellphones could have health effects. Other studies don't find any health effects from cellphone use. Long-term studies on animals exposed to the RF found in wireless networks (Wi-Fi) have, so far, found no health effects. Scientists continue to study the effects of long-term exposure to low levels of RF."

# Can I limit my exposure?

Cell phone towers are not known to cause any health effects. But if you are concerned about possible exposure from a cell phone tower near your home or office, you can ask a government agency or private firm to measure the RF field strength near the tower (where a person could be exposed) to ensure that it is within the acceptable range.

# What should I do if I've been exposed to cellular phone towers?



There is no test to measure whether you have been exposed to RF radiation from cellular phone towers. But as noted above, most researchers and regulatory authorities do not believe that cell phone towers pose health risks under ordinary conditions. If you have additional health concerns, you might want to talk with your doctor.

- Written by
- Additional resources
- Resources



# The American Cancer Society medical and editorial content team

Our team is made up of doctors and master's-prepared nurses with deep knowledge of cancer care as well as journalists, editors, and translators with extensive experience in medical writing.

Along with the American Cancer Society, other sources of information and support include:

# **Environmental Protection Agency**

Home page: www.epa.gov

Understanding radiation: www.epa.gov/radiation/understanding-radiation-

overview.html

# **Federal Communications Commission**

RF Safety Program, Office of Engineering and Technology

Website: www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety

# **Food and Drug Administration**

Home page: www.fda.gov

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Radiation-emitting products: Cell phones: www.fda.gov/Radiation-EmittingProducts/RadiationEmittingProductsandProcedures/HomeBusinessandEntertainment/CellPhones/default.htm

## **National Cancer Institute**

Toll-free number: 1-800-422-6237 (1-800-4-CANCER)

Home page: www.cancer.gov Cellular telephone use and cancer

risk: www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/factsheet/Risk/cellphones

# **National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences**

Home page: www.niehs.nih.gov

Electric and magnetic

fields: www.niehs.nih.gov/health/topics/agents/emf/index.cfm

# **World Health Organization**

Electromagnetic fields and public health: base stations and wireless technologies Website: www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs304/en/index.html

\* Inclusion on this list does not imply endorsement by the American Cancer Society

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Last Medical Review: December 2, 2014 Last Revised: May 31, 2016

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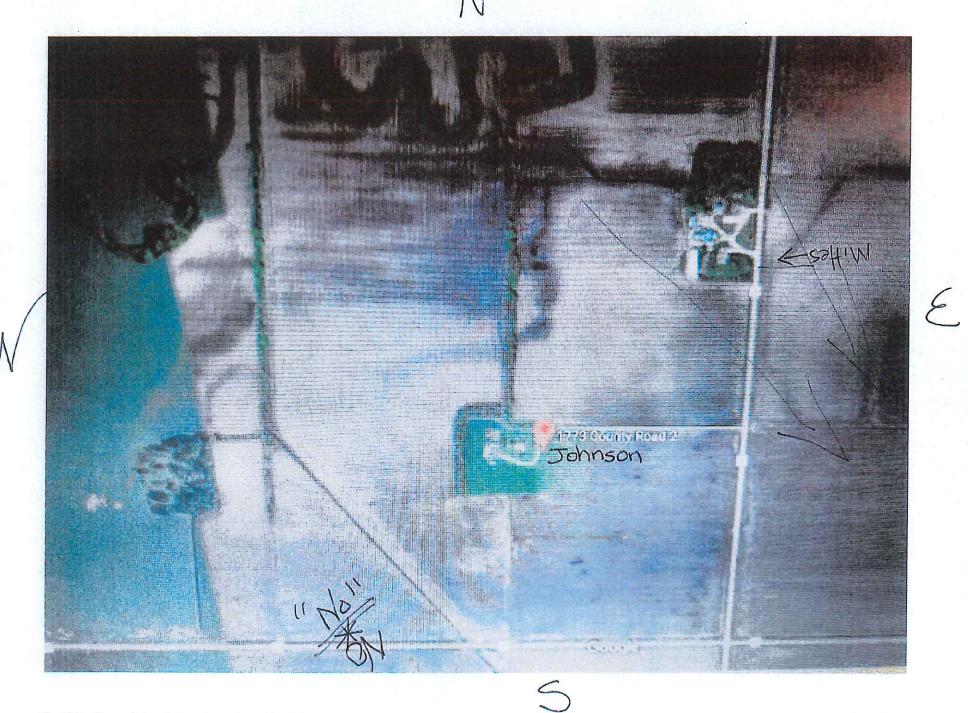
Ladies & Centlemen of the Zone Committee My NAME is Marcia Johnson owner of property 1773 Co Rd 2 North Bend NE I am Against the creation of the Tower with Cell/Televison/Radio Transmittion Complete with Power station building which will be in my direct view of my property, I am requesting this tower should be relocated. 1753/or by 1749 Due to Mr. 4 Mrs. Mittes will be profiting from this venture with Verizon. Which is great!! What I don't agree with is I brought this property to retire after 34 yes of Service to my country with the Air Force. Never expected having to enjoy the views from my deck gorgous sunsets to be replaced by a dangerous EMF which are Known to cause cancer. Being a Parent to my

2 times Bone Marrow Transplant daughter Who was diagnosed at 3/zyrs. Power Station 2 houses away. Samantha had AML Lukemia. I do Not want her to be exposed to this Tower. I ask this Tower be moved to one of the other options I suggested I believe the Mitties Who are profiting from this tower should enjoy the Tower Near there home. Do you know these towers along with RF Radiation Emitted from these Towers Brain Tumors, Crops CAN be damage, Stripping Nutriun Values from Vegetubles DNA, can be damaged. Different effects at Different age, Men sperm courts, wildlife -especially birds and bees from this radiation, Lighting strikes Autroic children, Fleart Tomorors. If this tower is built in Tree area it will aleast conceal a muffle the sounds from the Tower. I'm 8090 disabled thus far. I am on medical hold right Now. I should have, retired

in Oct then Nov then March Now July! 3 I just want to come home and retire in peace, not exposing my self at family to these unseen dangers. If it Stays in this location will my family and myself be conpensated in the furture proven illiness from this tower? 300,000 HillMate waves. Positioning this Tower & build in wooded ower at least be Not so Noticable. AND lessen the losses of the property values. Thank-you for Notisting me of this Notice

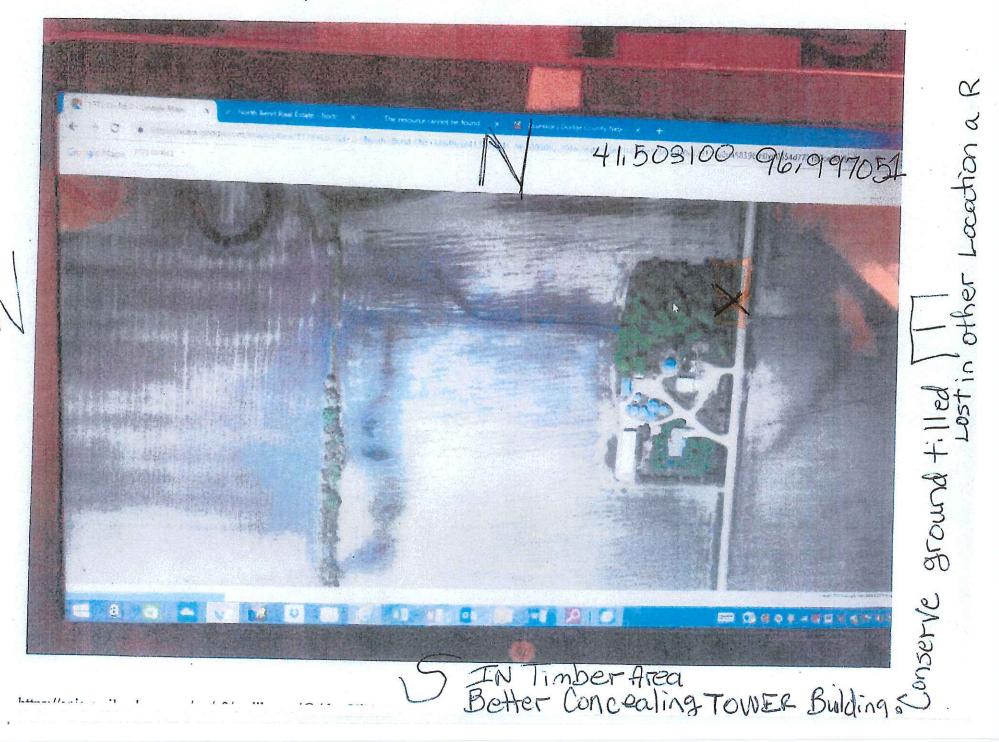
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# DANGERS OF LIVING NEAR CELL PHONE TOWERS RAISED

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November 2008 Articles

La Mesa Council holds hearing Nov. 5 on proposal to erect cell phone tower in Lake Murray area

By Miriam Raftery

When Mom asked me to look into possible health hazards posed by cell phone panel antennas that a church in her neighborhood wants to put up, I expected to find reassuring facts to allay Mom's concerns. Instead, I found deeply disturbing data that makes me wonder why the public is not being informed about health risks—and why our government seems intent on covering up troubling truths.

Cell phone companies and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration assert that cell phone towers don't pose health risks to the public. Some studies support this assertion, but other studies suggest just the opposite.

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Harvard-trained Dr. Andrew Weil at the University of Arizona's medical center recently observed, "In January 2008, the National Research Council (NRC), an arm of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering, issued a report saying that we simply don't know enough about the potential health risks of long-term exposure to RF energy from cell phones themselves, cell towers, television towers, and other components of our communications system. The scientists who prepared the report emphasized, in particular, the unknown risks to the health of children, pregnant women, and fetuses as well as of workers whose jobs entail high exposure to RF (radiofrequency) energy....Because so much of cell phone technology is new and evolving, we don't have data on the consequences of 10, 20 or 30 years worth of exposure to the RF energy they emit," Weil concluded. The report called for long-term safety studies on all wireless devices including cell phones, computers, and cell phone towers.

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A 2006 report issued by the World Health Organization (WHO) offered some reassurance and found no scientific evidence that radiofrequency signals from cell towers cause adverse health effects. The report noted that up to five times more of the RF signals from FM radio and television (than from cell towers) are absorbed by the body with no known adverse effects on health in the more than 50 years that radio and TV broadcast stations have been operating.

But an Australian study found that children living near TV and FM broadcast towers, which emit similar radiation to cell towers, developed leukemia at three times the rate of children living over seven miles away.

If you live within a quarter mile of a cell phone antenna or tower, you may be at risk of serious harm to your health, according to a German study cited at www.EMF-Health.com, a site devoted to exposing hazards associated with electromagnetic frequencies from cell phone towers and other sources.

Cancer rates more than tripled among people living within 400 meters of cell phone towers or antennas, a German study found. Those within 100 meters were exposed to radiation at 100 times normal levels. An Israeli study found risk of cancer quadrupled among people living within 350 meters (1,148 feet) of a cell phone transmitter—and seven out of eight cancer victims were women. Both studies focused only on people who had lived at the same address for many years.

Other studies have found that levels of radiation emitted from cell phone towers can damage cell tissues and DNA, causing miscarriage, suppressing immune function, and causing other health problems.

Astoundingly, the federal government does not allow rejection of a cell phone tower based on health risks, according to a 2005 article. A Google search found no evidence that this situation has changed.

Yet over 1.9 million cell phone towers and antennae have been approved nationwide without federal studies to assure safety of those living nearby.

How many cell phone towers and antennas are in your neighborhood? Find out at www.antennasearch.com. I plugged in my address on Mt. Helix, hardly an urban stronghold, and was astounded to discover that there are 96 cell phone towers, 286 antennas and 2 proposals for new towers within four miles of my home!

So how about Mom's neighborhood, where an Evangelical church insists a new tower is needed? Mom gets perfectly fine cell phone reception, and so do the neighbors she's spoken with—not surprising since there are already 113 towers and 335 antennas within a four-mile radius.

Churches, schools, fire stations, and other buildings are increasingly erecting cell phone towers or antennas because cell phone companies are willing to pay rental fees of hundreds or even thousands of dollars a month—welcome infusions for cash-strapped budgets. But at what cost to the public's health? There are young children in Mom's neighborhood, less than one block from the proposed cell phone antenna site.

In Sweden, the government requires interventions to protect the public from electromagnetic frequencies. Why isn't the U.S. government paying attention to this potential risk to public safety?

If you wish to share your views on the T-Mobile proposed cell phone tower at 5777 Lake Murray Blvd. (near Marengo Avenue), the La Mesa City Council will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, November 5th at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at the La Mesa City Hall, 8130 Allison Ave., La Mesa.

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