

24 May 2021

To the Honorable Jim Marshall, Chair, and Members of the Consumer Affairs Committee
105 Ryan Office Building
P.O. Box 202014
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: May 25, 2021 5G Small Cell Public Hearing – Public Input

To the Honorable Jim Marshall, Chair, and Members of the Consumer Affairs Committee:

My name is Tania Slawecki. I am a resident of Centre County, PA . I attest and affirm that the following statements are true, accurate and within my knowledge.

I am writing with regard to your imminent May 25, 2021 5G Small Cell public hearing, about which I was given short notice. The deployment of 5G small cells in Pennsylvania is an issue of significant import and impact on the public and is a subject warranting more time and public testimony than this short-notice hearing appears to be able to accommodate. My first request, therefore, is that the Consumer Affairs Committee arrange for a proper full public hearing, allowing sufficient time for interested members of the public to be apprised of the hearing and to be afforded an occasion to speak.

In particular, I would like to be able to speak at such a hearing as an expert. I work as a Research Associate at Penn State University in the Microwave Processing and Engineering Center, using microwaves to tailor and improve properties of materials. In my more than ten years of working in this field, I have come to understand how microwaves – even at very low intensities – interact with materials, including materials that are found in our bodies. With additional background in health education, and having personally experienced harm from a microwave communications device at a power density (intensity level) ten thousand times *lower* than what the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) currently regards as “safe,” I have studied and become very familiar with the science literature which overwhelmingly indicates that the radiation from 5G small cells and other 5G infrastructure is a form of radiation that causes definite harm to all biological organisms, including humans.

The implementation of “wireless” 5G expansion has numerous drawbacks. Wireless 5G is:

- Scientifically documented to be hazardous to human and other biological life
- Highly consumptive of energy leading to an increase in greenhouse gases due to both powering the wireless transmitters and handling all of the information/data collected
- Insecure and susceptible to hacking
- Dependent on infrastructure components from China resulting in further issues with national security, potential foreign intrusion and potential theft of information/data
- Highly vulnerable to invasion of privacy

- Expensive: the cost to upgrade to more wireless infrastructure is being passed on to consumers and taxpayers through obfuscatory legislation, increased rates in utility bills and other “hidden” means.

*None of the above is necessary. **The benefits of 5G can be achieved by safe, reliable, secure, high speed wired service at much lower energy cost.*** Utility contracts behind every monthly phone bill of every kind since the early 1990s collected fees to fund “fiber-optics to the premises” (FTTP), so *we have already paid for this service!* Furthermore, public funding from an earlier generation gave us copper-wire phone and DSL internet lines that still work perfectly – even in an electrical outage – and these can and must be restored.

1996 Telecommunications Act and the 1934 Communications Act are both purposed “to promote the safety of life and property.” Similarly, our elected officials are obligated to make decisions that ensure public health and safety – particularly above commercial interests.

It should *not* have to fall to citizens groups to ensure public health and safety. Yet, we are presently forced to do so due to the well-documented revolving door between industry and the federal agencies charged with safeguarding our health and safety. The Federal Communication Commission (FCC), charged with ensuring public health and safety with regard to microwave radiation exposure from communication devices is a prime example of a compromised agency.¹ The FCC’s failure to update their “safety guidelines” for exposure to wireless signals has led to many people being unnecessarily injured by their exposure to low-intensity microwave radiation – at levels much lower in intensity than those at which 5G antennas will operate. This failure is being confronted in the courts with the lawsuit brought against the FCC by the Environmental Health Trust and Children’s Health Defense.

According to the findings of Belpomme and Irigaray in their landmark March 11, 2020 publication, “Electrohypersensitivity as a Newly Identified and Characterized Neurologic Pathological Disorder: How to Diagnose, Treat, and Prevent It”, electrohypersensitivity (EHS), also known as electromagnetic sensitivity (EMS), is a growing global plague.² More and more people are being sickened and debilitated by their exposure to wireless signals from communication devices. Many more are suffering without realizing the cause of their ailments which, as the science literature shows, can include: fatigue, heart rhythm issues, Rouleaux formation in the blood (i.e., “sludgy blood”), various neurological and neuropsychiatric effects including anxiety and depression, headaches, dizziness, sleeping problems, dysesthesia (abnormal sensations), concentration and memory problems, unexplained skin rashes, irritability, tinnitus and hearing loss, and more.^{3,4,5} The mechanisms by which these adverse effects arise are now well-documented, and even DNA damage and cancer⁶ can be caused by the low-intensity

¹ https://ethics.harvard.edu/files/center-for-ethics/files/capturedagency_alster.pdf

² <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7139347/>

³ Pall (2016) <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0891061815000599>

⁴ Belyaev (2016)

<https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/10910251701394/EUROPAEM%20EMF%20Guideline%202016%20for%20the%20prevention%20and%20treatment%20of%20EMF-related%20health%20problems.pdf>

⁵ Havas (2013) <https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/7520958029.pdf>

⁶ National Toxicology Program (2018) https://www.niehs.nih.gov/ntp-temp/tr595_508.pdf

but nearly non-stop microwave communications signals from cell phones, WiFi, cordless phones, baby monitors and all manner of other wireless devices pervasive in our world now, to which we do NOT need the further assault of wireless 5G.

With our country's health care system already barely functioning, do we need to cripple it further by promoting this insidious form of pollution from 5G small cells and other wireless 5G infrastructure? Broadband internet access everywhere is a good and highly desirable thing, but it makes the most sense to achieve it in the safest possible manner. SafeG (<https://safeg.net/home/>) advocates bringing 5G to our homes and businesses via safe fiber-optic cables, the infrastructure for which is largely already in place in most areas.

In order to ensure public health and safety remain paramount in its decision, the House Consumer Affairs Committee is legally obligated to review evidence even if it happens to run contrary to the promotional information provided by industry when considering this 5G expansion. Safe, effective, reliable alternatives to the "wireless 5G" that industry promotes DO exist.

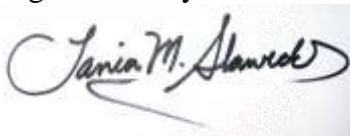
I urge you to require all broadband to be FTTP, so that no new antennas can irradiate anyone.

I request that you please write back to me and advise what action the Committee will take to protect my health and that of all Pennsylvanians in regards to the above matter, and I request the Committee to arrange for a full public hearing on this matter to permit *non-industry* public and expert testimony to be entered into the record and weighed in the decision-making process.

I accept and appreciate your oath of office.

Thank you.

Signed 24 May 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tania M. Slawecki". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

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