

**Whole Child Pediatric Therapy  
111 Meadowlark Road  
Reading, PA 19606**

To Marlene Dortch  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> St., SW  
Washington DC 20554

*EX PARTE*

**Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment;**

**Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment;**

D 17-79, D 17-84

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The health of our nation's children is precious and must be protected above all else. The American Academy of Pediatrics, in response to the results of the National Toxicology Program's 2016 research results, called for us to reduce children's exposure to wireless radiation. Our nation has not followed their advice and children are now subject to a continuously increasing amount of wireless radiation (example- please see attached photo). The deployment of 5<sup>th</sup> Generation small wireless facilities in children's front yards will exponentially increase this exposure to wireless radiation, against the advice of the major group of children's pediatricians.

It is not time to remove barriers to this technology, it is time to put them up and protect human health. Today, more than half of American children and adults have at least one chronic illness, and many have two or more. The incidence of chronic disease in American children has never been higher. Adding 5G wireless in close proximity to homes, schools and businesses will make an already bad situation worse. Some facts from the Children's Health Defense:

- In 2011 54% of children had at least one of 20 chronic health conditions;
- Life expectancy is decreasing and infant mortality is rising. U.S. children are 76% more likely to die before their first birthday than infants in other wealthy countries;

- A study conducted from 2001-2004 found that half of U.S. youth (ages 13-18) had been diagnosed with at least one mental, emotional, and/or behavioral disorder;
- Top military leaders report seven in ten young Americans aged 17-24 are unfit to serve in the U.S. military because of obesity, asthma, hearing and eyesight problems and mental illness.

This state of the health of our children is unacceptable. Fifth Generation Wireless (5G) is expected to cause eye, skin and testicular problems. This is in addition to the increased risk of creating cancer, brain and reproductive problems associated with the current technologies in place. Will our children be able to reproduce and become parents themselves? It's a fair question to ask given the testicular problems associated with wireless radiation and the fact that children are exposed to wireless radiation their entire lives. We need to be protecting our nation's children, our future. We should not be increasing risk by adding stronger, higher frequency microwave radiation sources in close proximity of homes, schools and businesses.

Two large regional children's hospitals have had major expansions in the past 5 years. Our children need more medical care for both physical impairments and mental illnesses. It is time for a serious look at any possible causative factor. The government's own research has shown that wireless radiation, at much lower levels than is used in 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Wireless, causes cancer, reproductive harm, neurological harm and cardiac problems. Older teens experience addiction and too many are committing suicide and other violent acts. **Health must be the national priority, not more wireless that will contribute to the increasingly sedentary lifestyles that children and teens already have adopted.** Faster video streaming and the Internet of things, including toys which require less imaginative play, will come at a heavy price to our nation's health and security.

The short time frame to discover and comment on this FCC ruling is unfair. It eliminates the public's, states' and local governments' ability to read, evaluate, react, and comment on the proposed rules. Most of the public is unaware of this pending proposal. The draft

order is also not posted on the FCC's home page, despite its deep impact on every community and resident in the United States.

It is critical that the FCC:

- Postpone Commission action on these rules until at least November, and preferably postpone until January in the interest of transparency and public process. This is needed to allow adequate evaluation of this proposal and its impacts on the public, and on cities, counties, and states.
- Open 60-90 day (minimum) public comment period on these rules, beginning immediately and for anyone regardless of standing
- Post the draft order on the FCC home page where it can be easily found.
- Provide for a hearing on health with experts who are free of industry bias.

This ruling is very oppressive to citizens, especially children who have chronic health problems or who have electrosensitivity. Children today are exposed to wireless radiation from the time they are conceived. Childcare Centers often have wireless devices as well as industrial WiFi Routers. No agency is monitoring their exposures. Older children are becoming electrosensitive, and parents of school children are expressing concern. I have been in classrooms for infants where adult caregivers have multiple wireless devices in the room – iPads (sometimes with shoulder straps so they can carry it with them), cell phones, DECT phones which emit high levels of microwave radiation plus more wireless devices in nearby office spaces. We need more regulation, not less. The FCC must heed the warnings of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the other physicians, scientists and researchers who are expressing concern.

People who have electrosensitivity may have to move from their homes if a 5G small cell or other wireless device is installed outside of their home. This ruling does not provide anywhere for them to go as this technology is planned to be everywhere. There is no way to shield one's home from this level of radiation and is a very serious threat to their health. The EMF Scientist appeal must be heeded to protect these citizens. Where are these people to go?

This draft order and report remove many of the important processes of protection for citizens in their own communities. It places an unfair burden on the citizens and townships because it allows Telecom Companies to install wireless antennas anywhere with no consideration of or protection for human health. Health is not even a consideration and in fact, it is illegal to use health as an excuse. That is unacceptable today as so many are reporting the development of electrosensitivity. Expansion of 5G should be stopped immediately and the FCC Safety Guidelines for safety reviewed by independent experts free of industry bias. The guidelines were developed 22 years ago and are based on outdated science. They were made for men not women and children. There are over 10,000 studies showing biological effects at far lower levels of microwave radiation than 5G will utilize. It is irresponsible for regulators to only consider thermal effects on health.

These infrastructure roll-outs are an unfunded mandate, putting costs on cities, counties, states, and local residents, reducing funding for local and state services, and reducing staff availability. These rules put the FCC in a position of regulating the public, state and local governments rather than the industry it is supposed to regulate. This places the health and even the lives of citizens at risk. They have flipped their mandate. Our national priority needs to flip back to the health of the people, especially our children.

Attachment: Photo of Cell Tower on Playground

Respectfully,

\

Donna DeSanto Ott, PT DPT MS FMCHC

Attachment: Photo of Cell Tower on Playground



