

To: Lou Battison, Director of Industry Canada
CC: Frank Valeriote Liberal member of Parliament for Guelph, Guelph Mayor Karen Farbridge, Ward 1 Councillor Jim Furfaro, Ward 1 Councillor Bob Bell, Holy Trinity Catholic School Vice Principal Don McPhee, Ken Danby School Council Chair Scott Doern, Grange Hill East Neighbourhood Group chair and co-chairs, Guelph City Planning Zoning Inspector, Patrick Sheehy, Guelph Hydro Director Corporate Communications Sandy Manners, Citizens for Safe Technology CEO Frank Clegg, and fellow concerned citizens

Dear Lou Battison,

I'm writing to protest the proposed new Bell cell tower at Grange and Starwood in Guelph, and the proposed Rogers wireless extended pole on Auden St in Guelph – both would affect me and my child, the children in the two adjacent schools of the proposed Bell site, and the neighbourhood at large.

I am electrosensitive. That is, I'm sensitive to electromagnetic radiation (EMR). My phone and computer are hardwired; I have no wireless devices in my house. I am affected by the Smart Meter attached to my house, and by the cordless phones and Wi-Fi of my neighbours. I've got tinnitus, I experience excruciating headaches, tingling in my fingers and arms and heart palpitations.

I purchased my semi-detached home about 2 years ago, and one of its most appealing aspects is its location – it's the farthest it can be from any of the present cell towers. The proposed new cell tower, right at the top of my street, would make living here unbearable, as would the wireless extended pole on Auden St. The thought of moving is devastating. For one, I can't afford it. I'm a full-time, single mom of a 5-yr-old. Secondly, I don't want to uproot my child again. And where could I possibly move that's "quiet" in terms of electromagnetic radiation? Guelph is carpeted with towers and transmitters. We are currently being exposed to levels of radio and microwave frequency that have never been experienced in human history – or ever tested for their long term effects. As an electrosensitive person, I'm merely one of the canaries. My worst fear is what all this electromagnetic radiation is doing to my child.

In May 2011, the World Health Organization classified electromagnetic radiation as a Class 2B possible human carcinogen. The microwaves that are emitted from these towers are being linked to leukemia, infertility, Alzheimer's, autism and various other insidious health issues. The standards that have been set by Health Canada – Safety Code 6 – fall at least 100 times higher (meaning 100 times more exposure) than those set by most European countries. Yet based on this standard, cellular towers are being placed on schools, daycares, hospitals and in the middle of residential neighbourhoods, while homes are fitted with Smart Meters operating on high-powered Wi-Fi networks. We're led to think that this new technology is safe and that we're well-protected – but we're not.

Health Canada is putting together a panel to review Safety Code 6, and Citizens for Safe Technology (www.C4ST.org) has organized July 8th, 2013, as a day for the public to speak up to Health Canada regarding this review. At present, Safety Code 6 is based ONLY on thermal heating effects, and not on biological (cellular) effects. It doesn't take into account the effects of electromagnetic radiation on brain waves, or our neurological or endocrine systems. We're playing with fire when we should be erring on the side of caution. Red flags are waved by The Bioinitiative Report (www.bioinitiative.org), the most comprehensive and daunting compilation of research on cell tower emissions done by an independent international body of scientists and researchers; Magda Havas PhD (www.magdahavas.com), Associate Professor of Environmental & Resource Studies at Trent University; Dr. Dietrich Klinghardt MD PhD (www.klinghardtacademy.com); Citizens for Safe Technology (www.c4st.org), and numerous other respected researchers and organizations.

I hired Safe Living Technologies to come and take EMR readings of my home and my home has RF exposure thousands of times higher than recommended standards (Bioinitiative.org). Indoor EMR reading should be no higher than 5 microwatts per centimetre squared. When I contacted Guelph Hydro with a note from my doctor requesting the removal of my Smart Meter, I got an email back with attachments telling me how safe the technology is. It reminded me of the dispatcher in the towers during 9/11 who told people who called down to just stay put, that everything was fine and under control.

Patrick Sheehy of Guelph City Planning told me the proposed new Bell cell tower, at 15.5 metres (?) falls just short, a half metre, of being a city issue. It's out of the city's jurisdiction, I was told. Why aren't we, as residents, getting notices from telecommunication companies asking for our permission or vote in the matter of erecting neighbourhood towers? No one that I approached was aware of the proposed new cell tower – not even Frank Valeriote, Guelph's Federal MP (who has already been fighting the battle against new cell towers – thank goodness!). How is it that the most informed party (about new cell towers) – the City of Guelph – is not actively involved in regulation?

I'm extremely worried about the long term effects of all this radiation on my child – and the people in my neighbourhood, my city, my province and my country.

Lou Battiston: the proposed Bell cell tower at Grange and Starwood, and the proposed Rogers wireless extended pole on Auden St in Guelph SHOULD NOT BE APPROVED.

I appreciate your attention in this matter.

Sue Lebrecht
Guelph Resident