5G Legislative Outreach Toolkit

A comprehensive toolkit designed to provide local legislators with legal language to protect your community from 5G small cell installations and to educate them about the many risks associated with the 5G rollout.

Produced by
Americans for Responsible Technology
June 2020
Sample Email to Legislators Introducing Them to the Sample 5G Legislative Code

To the Honorable Members of the [insert name of your city/town/village] Council:

Many residents of [insert name of your city/town/village] are concerned about 5G-enabled small cell wireless antennas being deployed in our community. 5G, the next generation of wireless technology, presents a unique set of challenges to the public ranging from health risks to potential property devaluations to adverse aesthetic impacts.

The Federal Communication Commission’s public human radio frequency (RF) microwave radiation (“wireless radiation”) general public exposure limits were adopted over 24 years ago and fail to consider the widely documented adverse biological effects associated with exposure to wireless radiation, the same type of radiation emitted by 5G wireless antennas and devices.

Members of the scientific community are not the only ones waiving a red flag when it comes to 5G. Swiss Re, the second-largest reinsurance company in the world, classified 5G as a “high impact” liability risk in its 2019 SONAR New Emerging Risks report due to health risks, and research suggests that small cell antenna installations near residences could reduce property values by up to 20% or more.

It is vital that [insert name of your city/town/village] adopt a strong legislative code to protect our community from 5G antenna installations, particularly near our homes and schools, to the fullest extent possible under the law. To that end, I am attaching a sample 5G small cell ordinance to this email for your review. I hope you will strongly consider adopting this ordinance, in part or in full, to protect the citizens of ___________ from involuntary exposure to wireless radiation.

I would be happy to discuss these matters with you further before the next council meeting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[insert your name and mailing address]
Sample 5G Legislative Code: Protecting Communities from Small Cell Antenna Installations (Version 10.1.1 June 2020)

We've collected some of the best ideas and legal language from cities and towns all over the country that are pushing back against the overreach of the Federal Communications Commission and the rollout of small cell wireless antennas near our homes and schools.

If your community is receiving requests from wireless carriers or antenna construction companies for permission to construct small cell facilities in public rights-of-way, this sample 5G legislative code is exactly what your town attorney needs to update your town’s code to protect property values, privacy, safety and public health.

Access the sample 5G legislative code here:
The Science is Clear: Thousands of Independent, Peer-Reviewed Studies Document Adverse Biological Effects Associated With Exposure to Wireless Radiation

There are more than 1,000 scientific studies conducted by independent researchers from around the world concerning the biological effects of RF radiation. Here we present some of the most recent.

I. Effects on Fetal and Newborn Development
II. Effects on Young Children
III. Brain Tumors
IV. Parotid Gland Tumors
V. Other Malignancies
VI. Effects on DNA
VII. Neurological/Cognitive Effects
VIII. Effects on Male Fertility
IX. Electromagnetic Sensitivity
X. Effects on Implanted Medical Devices
XI. 5G Effects
XII Miscellaneous Articles

Access the digest of peer-reviewed, independent studies documenting wireless radiation health effects here: https://www.americansforresponsibletech.org/scientific-studies
Wireless Companies Admit Potential Liability!
Here are excerpts from their SEC Annual 10-K Filings, 2020:

“Our business could be adversely affected by findings of product liability for health or safety risks from wireless devices and transmission equipment…
Allegations have been made that the use of wireless handsets and wireless transmission equipment, such as cell towers, may be linked to various health concerns, including cancer and brain tumors.” (Page 18)

"We are subject to a significant amount of litigation, which could require us to pay significant damages or settlements...In addition, our wireless business also faces personal injury and wrongful death lawsuits relating to alleged health effects of wireless phones or radio frequency transmitters. We may incur significant expenses in defending these lawsuits. In addition, we may be required to pay significant awards or settlements." (Page 17)

“In the wireless area, we also face current and potential litigation relating to alleged adverse health effects on customers or employees who use technologies including, for example, wireless devices. We may incur significant expenses defending such suits or government charges and may be required to pay amounts or otherwise change our operations in ways that could materially adversely affect our operations or financial results.” (Page 19)
“If radio frequency emissions from wireless handsets or equipment on our communications infrastructure are demonstrated to cause negative health effects, potential future claims could adversely affect our operations, costs or revenues… We cannot guarantee that claims relating to radio frequency emissions will not arise in the future or that the results of such studies will not be adverse to us… We currently do not maintain any significant insurance with respect to these matters.” (Page 17)

“The possible development of adverse precedent in litigation or conclusions in professional studies to the effect that radio frequency emissions from wireless devices and/or cell sites cause harmful health consequences, including cancer or tumors, or may interfere with various electronic medical devices such as pacemakers, could have an adverse effect on U.S. Cellular’s business, financial condition or results of operations.” (Page 17)
"5G – short for fifth generation – is the latest standard for cellular mobile communications…To allow for a functional network coverage and increased capacity overall, more antennas will be needed, including acceptance of higher levels of electromagnetic radiation. In some jurisdictions, the rise of threshold values will require legal adaptation. Existing concerns regarding potential negative health effects from electromagnetic fields (EMF) are only likely to increase. An uptick in liability claims could be a potential long-term consequence.

Other concerns are focused on cyber exposures, which increase with the wider scope of 5G wireless attack surfaces. Traditionally IoT devices have poor security features. Moreover, hackers can also exploit 5G speed and volume, meaning that more data can be stolen much quicker. A large-scale breakthrough of autonomous cars and other IoT applications will mean that security features need to be enhanced at the same pace. Without, interruption and subversion of the 5G platform could trigger catastrophic, cumulative damage…There are also worries about privacy issues (leading to increased litigation risks), security breaches and espionage. The focus is not only on hacking by third parties, but also potential breaches from built-in hard- or software “backdoors.” In addition, the market for 5G infrastructure is currently focused on a couple of firms, and that raises the spectre of concentration risk.

Potential impacts:

• Cyber exposures are significantly increased with 5G, as attacks become faster and higher in volume. This increases the challenge of defence.

• Growing concerns of the health implications of 5G may lead to political friction and delay of implementation, and to liability claims. The introductions of 3G and 4G faced similar challenges.
• Information security and national sovereignty concerns might delay implementation of 5G further, increasing uncertainty for planning authorities, investors, tech companies and insurers.

• Heated international dispute over 5G contractors and potential for espionage or sabotage could affect international cooperation, and impact financial markets negatively.

• **As the biological effects of EMF in general and 5G in particular are still being debated, potential claims for health impairments may come with a long latency.**

Former President of Microsoft Canada, Frank Clegg, Discusses the Potential Dangers of 5G in This Short Video:

Watch the full video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4TdY344Now&t=0s

Thanks to our friends at Michigan for Safe Technology for hosting this video.
National Institute for Science, Law and Public Policy Survey Finds 94% of Homebuyers and Renters Would Pay Less For Property Located Near A Cell Tower or Antenna

"An overwhelming 94 percent of home buyers and renters surveyed by the National Institute for Science, Law & Public Policy (NISLAPP) say they are less interested and would pay less for a property located near a cell tower or antenna.

What's more, of the 1,000 survey respondents, 79 percent said that under no circumstances would they ever purchase or rent a property within a few blocks of a cell tower or antennas, and almost 90 percent said they were concerned about the increasing number of cell towers and antennas in their residential neighborhood.

The survey, “Neighborhood Cell Towers & Antennas—Do They Impact a Property’s Desirability?” also found that properties where a cell tower or group of antennas are placed on top of or attached to a building (condominium high-rise, for instance) is problematic for buyers.”

Read the full news article from the National Realtors Association here: https://magazine.realtor/daily-news/2014/07/25/cell-towers-antennas-problematic-for-buyers

Thanks to the National Institute for Science, Law and Public Policy for conducting this survey.