



February 3, 2013

Dear Mr. Bellomo,

I understand the LAUSD Board of Education is considering a proposal to take all District classrooms wireless. Please consider this an urgent invitation to discuss the proposal; and to solicit your involvement in this decision on a health and safety basis. The LAUSD considers this proposal again in a regular Board meeting on February 12th, 2013.

This LAUSD wireless classroom proposal comes at a critical time in the scientific and public health debate over potential health effects of wireless technologies (radiofrequency and microwave radiation (RFR); electromagnetic fields (ELF-EMF)). The evidence for wireless health impacts has substantially increased in five years. Further, the health consequences are demonstrated sufficiently to the satisfaction of the World Health Organization IARC to classify both RFR and ELF-EMF as Group 2B Possible Human Carcinogens.

The designation of RFR as a Possible Human Carcinogen was done in 2011; probably about the time the wireless technology groups were approaching the LAUSD with their proposal. A mid-course correction is still possible, although I understand the Bond Oversight Committee has (without sufficient knowledge of possible health risks) approved expenditures for the program. This was done without any environmental risk assessment as required under the Education Code and other LORS.

For LAUSD to pursue an all-wireless classroom approach now is very difficult, if not impossible to defend. The evidence is compelling enough that both scientific and public health experts, including IARC are strongly warning against chronic exposure to RFR. This is particularly true for school children who will spend many hours per day over perhaps 12 years in wireless exposures already reported to cause impairments in learning, memory, attention, concentration, behavior and sleep patterns.

I am the co-editor and a principal author of the BioInitiative Report 2007 and 2012 (newly released at www.bioinitiative.org). You can quickly access the latest international review of this subject. The BioInitiative 2012 Report has been prepared by 29 authors from ten countries*, ten holding medical degrees (MDs), 21 PhDs, and three MsC, MA or MPHs. Among the authors are three former Presidents of the Bioelectromagnetics Society and five full members of BEMS. One distinguished author is the Chair of the Russian National Committee on Non-Ionizing Radiation. Another is a Senior Advisor to the European Environmental Agency. Full titles and affiliations of authors is in Section 25 – List of Participants (and I have attached it below).

As an aside, in 2007, while under contract to CDE's School Siting Program I was asked to propose a set of best practices for EMF mitigation to CHPS. At that time Claire Barnett from the Healthy Schools Network, who was also active with CHPS had submitted an Amicus brief

addressing cellular base station emissions on children in schools. It was gratifying that LAUSD issued the 'best practice Distance Requirements' addressing cellular base stations and other toxic emissions. It was a precedent we now see was prescient, and based on established precautionary public health principles. Those principles should again be applied today with respect to wireless classrooms and mandatory use by students of wireless devices.

LAUSD cannot sanction nor defend a program to create blanket RFR wireless exposures of this magnitude in all classrooms (or any classrooms) nor can they defend spending many millions of dollars of LAUSD money on this program when the emissions are classified as Possible Human Carcinogens, and children are involuntarily exposed. The same level of precautionary care as demonstrated by LAUSD for cell tower exposures should hold true for wireless devices and wireless classrooms. In five years since 2007, the evidence for health impacts is much stronger, there are more and better studies to support this action, and the levels at which adverse effects occur has dropped another hundred-fold from 2007 levels.

Thank you and please feel free to contact me either by email or by telephone at (805) 969-0557.

Best regards,

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BioInitiative 2012 Report: A Rationale for Biologically-based Public Exposure Standards for Electromagnetic Radiation

WHAT IS IT: A report by 29 independent scientists and health experts from around the world about possible risks from wireless technologies and electromagnetic fields. It updates the BioInitiative 2007 Report.

WHAT IT COVERS: The science, public health, public policy and global response to the growing health issue of chronic exposure to electromagnetic fields and radiofrequency radiation in the daily life of billions of people around the world. Covers brain tumor risks from cell phones; damage to DNA and genes; effects on memory, learning, behavior, attention; sleep disruption; cancer; and neurological diseases like Alzheimer's disease. Effects on sperm and miscarriage (fertility and reproduction), effects of wireless on the brain development of the fetus and infant, and effects of wireless classrooms on children and adolescents is addressed. Mechanisms for biological action and public health responses in other countries are discussed. Therapeutic use of very low intensity EMF and RFR are addressed.

WHAT IS NEW: This update covers about 1800 new studies reporting bioeffects and adverse health effects of electromagnetic fields (powerlines, electrical wiring, appliances and hand-held devices) – and wireless technologies [cell and cordless phones, cell towers, WI-FI, wireless

laptops, wireless routers, baby monitors, surveillance systems, wireless utility meters ('smart meters'), etc.].



SECTION 25

List of BioInitiative Participants

Prepared for the BioInitiative Working Group
2007-2012