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February 10, 2013

Mr. Steve Veres, President  
& Members of the LAUSD Board of Trustees  
Los Angeles Unified School District  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Veres and all members of the LAUSD Board of Trustees,

I am Elizabeth Kelley. I am the director of the Electromagnetic Safety Alliance. I am also formerly the Managing Director of the International Commission for Electromagnetic Safety, ([www.icems.eu](http://www.icems.eu)) a scientific organization whose members published research in scientific journals on bioelectromagnetics. I am a proud graduate of John Marshall High School (S63), located in the Los Feliz area of Los Angeles. I hold a masters' degree in public administration, specializing in health care services from the University of California and, when USC nominated me to serve as a U.S. Presidential Management Fellow, went to work as a policy analyst at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in the Office of the Secretary in Washington D.C. Many wonderful teachers at John Marshall High were, and still are, an inspiration to me.

LAUSD Board of Trustees has twice adopted resolutions banning cell towers near LASUD school property. I knew Ms. Julie Korenstein, a former LAUSD Board Trustee, who proposed to the board that it adopt a resolution opposing cell towers on or near LAUSD school property. That resolution was unanimously adopted in June 2000. A second resolution, proposed by Trustee Richard Vladovic, adopted in 2009, expanded the initial resolution. These resolutions were aimed at protecting the health and safety of the children and school personnel from potentially harmful radiofrequency exposure conditions from cellular antennas.

The passage of these resolutions have brought nationwide attention to the growing body of science that show children's brains and bodies are more susceptible to the onset of neurological diseases and cancerous tumor formation than the general population.

The World Health Organization classified radiofrequency radiation as a class 2B, possible human carcinogen in May 2009 following an expert panel review of the medical evidence. This classification applies to all sources of radiofrequency radiation, including cell phones, cell antennas and WiFi routers.

Dr. Jonathon Samet, MD, who chairs the USC Department of Preventive Medicine and serves on President Obama's Cancer Advisory Panel, also chaired the expert panel that reviewed for medical evidence and recommended that classification to the World Health Organization. Although use of the word "possible" may seem to imply there is little risk, this statement actually sends a strong message of concern that is being listened to in many nations of the world. It is the strongest warning yet, from this international health organization, pointing to the potential for adverse health effects from radiofrequency/microwave radiation.

Please take your responsibility to educate children who you are preparing to lead full and productive adult lives and where they will be contributing to society in the future seriously. Children deserve to be educated in safe and healthy environments. Chose wired options over wireless by installing wired communications technologies on school campuses at LAUSD.

I am attaching the Porto Alegre Resolution, which I am a cosigner to, adopted by scientists and medical doctors from many countries at an international scientific meeting in Porto Alegre Brazil in 2009. This resolution strongly urges greater protection for children from all sources of radiofrequency radiation, especially in schools and from sources such as Wi-Fi and other wireless devices.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Kelley, MA

Director, Electromagnetic Safety Alliance, Inc.

Former Managing Director, International Commission for Electromagnetic Safety

## **The Porto Alegre Resolution**

We, the undersigned scientists, were honored to participate in a workshop organized by the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul and the Public Ministry of Rio Grande do Sul and sponsored by the Brazilian Health Ministry, the International Commission for Electromagnetic Safety, the Porto Alegre Environmental Council (COMAM/PA), the Rio Grande do Sul Center for Health Vigilance (CEVS/RS) and others, entitled, "International Workshop on Non-Ionizing Radiation, Health and Environment" which took place on May 18 and 19, 2009, in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

This resolution follows several international resolutions agreed to by concerned scientists and medical doctors over the past decade, including resolutions developed by the International Commission for Electromagnetic Safety [1], based on evidence and consideration on documents such as the BioInitiative Report [2] and a special issue of the journal Pathophysiology on electrical and magnetic fields, published in August 2009 [3].

We agreed that the protection of health, well-being and the environment requires immediate adoption of the Precautionary Principle, which states, "*when there are indications of possible*

*adverse effects, though they remain uncertain, the risks from doing nothing may be far greater than the risks of taking action to control these exposures. The Precautionary Principle shifts the burden of proof from those suspecting a risk to those who discount it"*, until new scientific discoveries are recognized as the only criterion for the establishment or modification of non-ionizing radiation exposure standards;

We recognize that, in Brazil as well as all over the world, where there has been an unprecedented explosion in the availability and use of non-ionizing electromagnetic fields for electrical and wireless communications technologies (mobile and cordless phones, WiFi and WIMAX networks, RFID, etc.), as well as major electrical grid and wireless broadband infrastructure changes, this assessment should inform risk management to take proper steps to protect the public from long term, low-level exposure to extremely-low frequency as well as radiofrequency electromagnetic fields that have substantially increased in the ambient environment in recent years.

We are concerned about the body of evidence that indicates that exposure to electromagnetic fields interferes with basic human biology and may increase the risk of cancer and other chronic diseases. The exposure levels at which these effects have been observed are many times lower than the standards promulgated by the International Commission for Non-Ionizing radiation Protection (ICNIRP) [4] and the IEEE's International Committee on Electromagnetic Safety (ICES) [5]. These standards are obsolete and were derived from biological effects of short-term high intensity exposures that cause health effects by temperature elevation and nerve excitation discovered decades ago. Recent research indicates that electromagnetic fields could cause detrimental health effects even at very low levels of exposure. The ICNIRP and IEEE/ICES standards are being supported and promoted by interested parties to avoid precautionary technical planning, precautionary laws, and precautionary advice to the public.

We are deeply concerned that current uses of non-ionizing radiation for mobile phones, wireless computers and other technologies place at risk the health of children and teens, pregnant women, seniors and others who are most vulnerable due to age or disability, including a health condition known as electromagnetic hypersensitivity. We strongly recommend these precautionary practices:

1. Children under the age of 16 should not use mobile phones and cordless phones, except for emergency calls;
2. The licensing and/or use of Wi-Fi, WIMAX, or any other forms of wireless communications technology, indoors or outdoor, shall preferably not include siting or signal transmission in residences, schools, day-care centers, senior centers, hospitals or any other buildings where people spend considerable time;
3. The licensing for siting and installation of infrastructure related to electrical power and wireless broadband telecommunications, particularly, cellular telephony, Wi-Fi and WIMAX, should only be approved after open public hearings are held and approval granted with full

consideration given to the need to apply the Precautionary Principle. Sensitive areas should be avoided to protect vulnerable populations;

4. Mankind shall be encouraged to continue to discover new means of harnessing non-ionizing electromagnetic energy, aiming at bringing benefits to society, through definition of new standards of human exposure, which are based on the biological realities of nature and not solely on the consideration of economic and technological needs.

We, therefore, urge all nations to join Switzerland, Italy, Belgium, Russia China, the U.S. (for the FCC standard for partial exposure of the head) and other countries and regions that have chosen to adopt a more precautionary strategy, aiming to assure more safety to the public while maintaining good service quality.

We make an urgent call to all nations to convene a panel of experts, selected from candidates recommended by civil society groups (not only those preferred by the affected industries) to discuss precautionary technology, laws and advice in order to develop policies that reconcile public health concerns with further development of wireless communications technology such as mobile phones as well as electric power transmission and distribution systems.

Citations:

- [1] ICEM's Benevento Resolution (2006) and Venice Resolution (2008) [www.icems.eu](http://www.icems.eu).
- [2] BioInitiative Report [www.bioinitiative.org](http://www.bioinitiative.org)
- [3] A Special Issue of Pathophysiology on the science and public health/policy issues regarding Electromagnetic Fields was published March 2009, and is the only peer reviewed scientific journal referenced on this list. It is now available online at <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/09284680>
- [4] International Commission on Non-ionizing Radiation Protection [www.icnirp.de](http://www.icnirp.de)
- [5] Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. [www.ieee.org](http://www.ieee.org).

Signed by:

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See [www.icems.eu](http://www.icems.eu) for more information