San Diego County Board of Supervisors

1600 Pacific Hwy, Room 335

San Diego, CA 92101

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dear District Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing with concern about the plans to implement and install small-cell wireless infrastructure based on the recent FCC ruling. This ruling essentially allows installment anywhere without local control or reasonable fees. The FCC rules allow these wireless facilities 10-20 feet from homes on rights of way, and *neglect health, safety, fire, falling, and other hazards* while setting an absolute 60-90 day shot clock, regardless of application number. *5G will also require the removal or severe pruning of all trees along the streets, as they cannot block the signal.* These FCC orders are unconstitutional and are currently being challenged. I URGE you to disallow this illegal mandate, and not take any irreversible action by changing our San Diego County wireless infrastructure ordinances, as it may be overturned.

Recall in 2017 that Governor Brown rejected SB649, and this gives local municipalities legal precedent to refuse the FCC mandates. Further, other cities and counties are standing against these “rushed” and “streamlined” FCC rules. They are being challenged in the ninth circuit by many municipalities; the Marin County Board of Supervisors, town of Fairfax, and the Massachusetts Municipal Association are examples of such against these rules. Others are waiting to see the outcomes of the existing legal challenges and tightening their ordinances. Burlington, Massachusetts, recently revised the town ordinances in a manner that caused the applications put forth by Verizon to be withdrawn. Petaluma County, California, recently revised town ordinances to require under-grounding of equipment and large setbacks from residences. Pittsfield, Massachusetts, recently revised city ordinances to limit the number of "small cells" placed on a structure. These actions provide more support and legal justification for San Diego County to challenge them as well. Further, heads of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology have written to the FCC questioning collusion. On January 14, 2019, Congresswomen Eshoo and Speier introduced HR 530 to block the FCC preemption of local authority. The National Resource Defense Council is also challenging the FCC's earlier rules to exempt small cells from historic and environmental considerations.

The FCC claims to 5G safety are unfounded. On Feb. 6, 2019, in a Senate hearing, industry leaders admitted that there’d been no health or safety testing, despite $25 billion dollars invested by the wireless industry in 2018. Senator Blumenthal and Congresswoman Eshoo have written the FCC for proof that the 5G technologies, employment of millimeter microwave (MMW) radiation in the 6 – 100 GHz range, are safe, *with no satisfactory response*. The FCC regulations for safety were adopted in 1996, based on industry-science, and have not been updated for next generation wireless, equipment and devices. Further, they are based on thermal effects, not biological effects. Finally, the FCC’s Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) limits do not apply to devices operating above 6 GHz (which 5G does).

Despite widespread denial, there is overwhelming scientific evidence that radio frequency (RF) radiation is harmful to all forms of life. Wireless facilities have traditionally been kept from bird migration areas, as birds become disoriented by the signals. High power, proximity, and even new wireless frequencies from an influx of small-cell towers add to a pervasive threat to the environment, including humans.

This will affect everyone, including those who make vital contributions to society, our community, and economy here in San Diego. **Your children, senior, expecting mothers and their babies, and immune-compromised constituents will be especially vulnerable to this harmful exposure.**

Recent research by the US National Toxicological Program (NTP) found cardiac and tumor risks heightened just from 2G wireless exposures, and other researchers have confirmed the NTP findings at ambient power levels. This is clear evidence of a link between long-term RF radiation exposure and cancer. The accumulated clinical evidence of sick and injured people, experimental evidence of damage to DNA, cells and organ systems in a wide variety of plants and animals, and epidemiological evidence that the major diseases that plague us, like cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer’s, infertility, and diabetes are in large part caused by electromagnetic pollution, forms a literature base of well over *27,000 peer-reviewed studies* (consolidated in the EMF Portal). Higher frequencies, such as above 6 GHz, will be used for 5G. Scientists in the field expect these higher frequencies to be devastating to insects, including bees. They also expect 5G to heighten skin cancer incidence, with other impacts to eyes, immunological and neurological systems. There is already a large population here in San Diego that suffers from EMF-induced, serious, health problems. With the rollout of 5G this number will grow rapidly. The health complications are vast and include: headaches, tinnitus, chest pain from impaired blood flow, heart arrhythmia, heart failure, cognitive disorders, hearing loss, insomnia, seizures, and neurodegenerative diseases, to name a few.

Of further concern, Active Denial System (ADS) is a directed-energy weapon developed by the U.S. military, that heats the surface of the skin using MMW at 95 GHz (this is within the range of 5G). This radiation penetrates the first layer of skin, where it feels like intense heat and causes a stinging sensation. Skin may redden and even blister. For most humans, the radiation does not permeate the second layer of skin – except where it’s thin, such as eyelids and for infants. The reflex of the eye during exposure is to close. Safety studies demonstrate corneal absorption of 94 GHz radiation, as well as *permanent ocular damage at exposure times greater than six seconds*; less than that for those with LASIK procedures.

Beyond health and safety concerns from the radiation, these towers pose fire and other hazards. Further, they will depreciate property values, impose on privacy and security, and through sickening of the population, will reduce productivity and our economy. This will place an undue burden on the government and medical providers, and will ultimately force people, and likely businesses, to leave San Diego County. *The County and its Supervisors will surely be sued for this predictable harm to children, adults, and senior citizens, fires from these small cells, and loss of landscaping, trees, or property values.*

Our County Board of Supervisors should seek to limit, *not exponentially increase*, the amount of electrosmog pollution from manmade RF radiation in San Diego County, as an imperative, according to numerous physician and scientist organizations! These include: The World Health Organization, Kaiser Permanente, American Academy for Environmental Medicine (AAEM), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), CA Sierra Club, the Honeybee Foundation, and even the California Department of Public Health. Nor should the County Board of Supervisors allow experimentation on the residents with a vast array of new MMW technologies - only previously used as ADS in crowd control. The Nuremberg Code has forbidden experimentation of this sort for over 50 years.

As our elected official, the citizens of San Diego County *require your good governance*, not protection of commercial and corporate interests. I am writing to request your due diligence: that our ordinance be carefully examined in light of the FCC's new ruling, health risks, other model ordinances, and with attention to crafting an ordinance that will prevent harm to the community. I request a careful review of the ordinances, with plenty of citizen input, to insure citizen protections; *as our elected representative this is your duty*. Again, I ask that you not make any irreversible actions at this time. And if any actions or applications must be taken, that the Board of Supervisors make permits and decisions contingent only on the FCC ruling, or parts thereof, not being overturned.

Sincerely,

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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