

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Submission to the Telecommunications Amendment (Mobile Phone Towers) Bill 2011

Proposed Optus Tower – water tank in Straits Outlook Craignish - Situated within 40 metres of my front door

1) Consultation process

The consultation process was not satisfactory as the relevant parties showed total contempt for any considerations for the affected community

- a. The Fraser Coast denied any involvement when it was later proved that they steered Optus to the site when even it was not the Telco's preferred site.
- b. The Mayor – Mick Kruger – initially denied any involvement
- c. Various councillors – Sue Brooks – initially said there was nothing we could do about it
- d. Optus have reneged on any assistance with determination of existing radiation levels after an on site promise to do so.
- e. Aurecon (on behalf of Optus) also announced there was nothing we could do about it
- f. Councillors said we were wasting our money as we would lose anyway.

2) No-one to help - (e.g., breaches of the ACIF Code not taken seriously (failure of ACMA , TIO and the Minister))

- a. The Federal Minister – Paul Neville denigrated a community member in Parliament by name indicating that it was not serious and indicating that we should not be taken seriously
- b. The Federal Minister not taking seriously the concerns of cancer patients on the hill

3) No-one to review whether something is high or low impact (e.g., telcos decide!!)

- a. Our Barrister could not determine whether it was low impact as well as other qualified electronics personnel. Why is it left up to the Minister to decide – is he qualified for this?

4) Why is our ARPANSA electromagnetic radiation standard so high? Who monitors it? Even when other world authorities debunk it?

5) Personal legal and emotional cost –

- a. This has reduced the quality of my forthcoming retirement due to devaluation of my house – as confirmed by a local real estate agent
- b. Stress and sleepless nights of my partner
- c. Financial burden to obtain legal advice
- d. Neighbour splits over involvement in this
- e. Media criticism of the residents of this community

6) Request support for the Bill - I ask that this Bill be supported by the committee, as, I and the residents of Craignish support it.

Kind Regards

Michael Frost and Pauline Horlock