Wednesday 7th March 2012

The Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications PO Box 6100 PARLIAMENT HOUSE, ACT. 2600

Dear Sir / Madam,

RE: Amendment (Mobile Phone Towers) Bill 2011

I hereby lodge my submission on amendments urgently required to the placement of the telecommunications Mobile Phone Towers.

I will begin with some background to myself which has drastically changed my life for the worse over the past fourteen years.

I got a huge amount of exposure of electromagnetic radiation back in 1998 from my place of employment. I only lasted there $3\frac{1}{2}$ months. In this time I went from being perfectly healthy to very sick. I applied for workers compensation as it was my work place which had clearly caused my ill health. The Government departments all closed ranks and sent me to see many specialists including the top allergy specialist in NSW Dr Jeremy Coleman who conducted every allergy test he could possibly think of over a four month period, and found that I was not allergic to anything.

They then sent me for tests on my lungs which were fine; two separate trips to Sydney to see psychiatrists (obviously trying hard to classify my health problems as psychosomatic or even that I be certified as insane; and to a government department radiation expert who wrote a false report to try to discredit me in an endeavor to make me look stupid.

Even though authorities are well aware of this, they still try to hide this problem of radiation exposure and say it doesn't exist – that is what they tried to do with me.

However, by just looking at me people could see that my facial skin was red, blotchy, with swelling around my eyes and lids, muscles in my face were twitching and I was extremely tired from not being able to sleep. At night after work I would put ice packs on my face and eyes to try to stop the pain and swelling—that helped a little. My heart was racing and had erratic beats which could be felt by other people. I spoke to many people in the telecommunications industry, electrical engineers, naturopaths and so on to try to determine what had happened to me. I also borrowed fourteen books from the Newcastle University library on the subject of radiation exposure and it's effects on humans. A couple of months later I tried to re-borrow a few of these books for further research but was amazed to find that none of the fourteen books I had originally borrowed were on the shelf or even mentioned in the library's listings and catalogues. They had all totally vanished!

From this high exposure in 1998, I became permanently hypersensitive to electromagnetic radiation and the microwave radiation from telecommunications towers. I have never worked since and exist on a Government disability pension. The doctor put the reason down as 'chronic fatigue'. However, if the towers were turned off tomorrow, I would probably be able to go back to do some type of work. My husband and I moved to Dereel for the sole reason that it was a low radiation area.

As the radiation levels and towers have increased over the years, my life has become far more restricted. The radiation has dramatically changed my life. I no longer have the choice of free movement in and around most areas so I spend most of my time at home. This is the place where I can live without suffering adverse health effects to the point where I can no longer function, become very sick and bed ridden.

When I leave the Dereel area to go into Ballarat or other areas of high radiation, I am forced to wear the very expensive YShield protective cloth which stops the microwave radiation from penetrating my body and making me sick.

Page one of three - Amendment to Mobile Phone Towers Bill - 07032012

I have tried not to cover up but become very sick. I spend the least amount of time away from home – just to do food shopping (as quickly as I can) and sometimes a few other bare essentials.

I have to be constantly aware of radiation levels to avoid becoming sick.

I have never wandered or browsed the streets of Ballarat. Wearing this extra cloth is also extremely hot in summer and embarrassing, but I have no other option. I also carry with me a meter to read RFR levels so I can ensure I am not exposed to high levels. Refer to Administrative Appeals Tribunal Case No. 2004/1057.

<u>Footnote Prior</u>: Back in 1987 my personality and past were thoroughly scrutinize by the Government when I was successful ahead of nearly 4,000 other applicants to be employed on the Australian Bicentennial Exhibition being the sole operator stationed at Bandiana Army Barracks at Wodonga to coordinate the large scale operations which had never been done before in Australia's history. This huge contingent traveled around Australia in 1988. On tour I was then employed as the Personnel Clerk and heavy articulated truck driver.

My future looks extremely bleak if this proposed tower goes ahead. The **fact** is, I cannot tolerate the amount of radiation which will be pulsed out from this new proposed tower so close to my home.

There are an increasing number of people with similar health problems to myself caused by over exposure of high levels of EMR and or RFR including the high frequency microwave radiation. Towns and living areas free from communications towers pulsing out microwave radiation must be made or areas put aside. Towns must be established for the ever increasing numbers of people who are becoming electromagnetic hypersensitive and others who wish to live without being exposed to high levels of radiation in their environment (a preventative action before becoming sick).

Electromagnetic hypersensitivity (EHS) is recognized by governments in other countries as a disability and so these people now numbering in the hundreds of thousands in many countries who can not live in the presence of the increasing high levels of the manufactured EMR and RFR are entitled to the disability pension. The microwave radiation is saturating our air space and is making an ever increasing number of people sick, which if the Government does not take positive and immediate steps to reduce exposure then many diseases culminating in death are the result. This is already happening – it is not a hypothesis or a possibility! A halt to the construction of all new radiation towers must be made to alleviate further and extensive suffering of humans and the environment. Note that microwaves also damage all flora and fauna and it adds to the global warming problems.

In our area of Dereel and many other areas around Ballarat we are currently fighting the placement of radiation towers approximately every five kilometers that the Government's NBN Co are trying to put up. The NBN Co. says each \$200,000 tower is only for wireless broadband which we know is a lie. Probably no one will even connect to it, as:

- (a) it will be more expensive than existing services;
- (b) people who want broadband already have it connected, and are happy with the speed.
- (c) it is by means of microwave radiation which many people don't want.

Through various documents we know that these towers are mainly for the smart meter radiation which adds even more radiation into our homes and properties. We would be happy with the satellite broadband service. The two new satellites will be faster and operate using speeds of 12 megabits per second download and 1 megabit per second upload service.

Overseas these microwave radiation towers and facilities are being taken out while the Australian Government and Telecommunications Industries are still trying to put them in. Australian authorities do not act for the public's best interest. Why is the Government doing this to us? It uses the Government department called ARPANSA as the radiation watchdog – and that is exactly all they do – watch and monitor and do absolutely nothing to protect public health. Government departments including

Page two of three - Amendment to Mobile Phone Towers Bill - 07032012

ARPANSA still try to hide behind the well outdated standards that the World Health Organisation once used before were removed from the working group of the WHO for unscrupulous actions and bringing the WHO into disrepute. Since then, the WHO announced to the world in May 2011 that radio frequency radiation is now classified as a 2B carcinogen, but the Australian Government ignores this important new information which should be acted on to protect the public. The Australian Government appears to only care about making money regardless of how much public suffering is caused by this.

This smart meter system has so many flaws that it will never succeed - it is only a matter of time before imminent failure. The longer the Government tries to prolong and pretend there is no significant unsolvable problems with this system the bigger the problem becomes and the more costly the inevitable demise of the system will be for the Government monetary wise and integrity wise. There is ever increasing amounts of public protest and anger over smart meter problems including many people being forced from their homes due to the high radiation levels - We know of many people.

Desperately needed are areas free from microwave radiation pulsing towers – we cannot live with this high level of radiation. Please stop this proliferation which will eventually cause a wide spread catastrophe.

How will the Government protect me and others from this radiation?

We wish for a positive reply to this question. In your reply do not insult us by quoting the propaganda rhetoric blurb of ARPANSA's standards and saying how much lower than the maximum 300GHz exposure limit that other radiating equipment is generally emitting.

However, if the Government and Telecommunications Industry are still holding onto their official belief or statement that pulsed microwave radiation is not detrimental to human health then we request copies of the scientific research that proves there are no adverse health effects. This research and statement to us is to be duly signed by a Government official who is responsible and holds the position of authority.

Yours faithfully

Wendy McClelland.