

TAKING ACTION AGAINST MOBILE PHONE TRANSMITTERS

If you have tried getting a favourable response from your M.P. and your Councillor and your M.S.P. (in Scotland) and you have failed, then what can you do? I strongly believe that the mobile phone companies and the Government will never lessen the levels of permitted radiation from these transmitters-unless there are protests. I think people have to demonstrate.

I have given some notes below which are geared to a protest outside a Church that contains transmitters. Fine tune these notes for your own protest.

DEMONSTRATING. Many people have a fear of demonstrating but it can be a *liberating* and hopefully *successful* process. Do not be embarrassed. There is nothing wrong about protesting against something that you believe is causing you (and your family) harm! I have demonstrated for many years about a lot of different things and I will give you a few pointers.

Firstly, look to yourself first. Few people-for whatever reason-seem to understand or even know about the dangers from mobile phone transmitters. So you need to organise yourself. Keep in touch with any groups that can help. But from contacting local Friends of the Earth and Green Party I knew that I would not get any support from them. But please do contact your own local contacts. And keep in touch with EMF safety groups. When you write a leaflet, get it spellchecked and read over by other people to see if it makes sense. Be specific e.g. most people are unhappy about the transmitters and not the masts so say that (“Local residents and shopkeepers are today protesting about the Health risk they face from being next to mobile phone transmitters.”)

Keep in touch with local residents and start by doing a leafleting of all those near you and near the transmitters you are worried about. I recently gave out 100 posters to local residents and shopkeepers who knew nothing of the two transmitters installed less than a quarter of a mile from their homes. While doing that, I also met two people who asked to help. I contacted my local residents group twice but as far as I am aware they never passed on my emails about the dangers to anyone else. There is another Residents Group starting soon and I will contact them.

You need to be a leader who involves others. Not a leader who alienates local people. You need as many people as possible on your side.

The Press is essential. When you have a pressworthy event contact any local Press whether they are on the internet or part of a print operation.

DEBATING/ARGUEING. Always be polite and friendly. Do not be rude to those who are rude. Never get drawn into a debate about whether you have a mobile phone or not. You probably do have and whether you have one or not will not change the degree of danger you face from mobile phone transmitters (and say that).

PRESS. Get as many facts as you can about the transmitters and never exaggerate. If the Science is difficult to understand then quote from scientific papers. For most people dealing with such health matters it is a question of which Scientists do you put your trust in. I believe the dangers are present here and now. I think also that it is impossible for Scientists to say they know the effects of the radiation over generations of people when the technology is only a few years old.

You need people to attend the demo. Let everyone volunteer to take on a job (i.e. press officer, poster designer... Someone needs to think of a stunt that will get the press along-like dressing as Guinea Pigs or wearing masks (if you want to say that that is what the Government is making you into). Get as many people as possible. If the transmitters are in a Church, then demonstrate when the congregation are going in to worship. You only need to be there for an hour.

Get as many people from your local area involved as possible. Not just giving out leaflets but trust them to help with planning.

The Press love gimmicks. If you know any personalities from T.V then get them along too.

It may be that you can only get three people to demonstrate. In that case I believe that there is nothing wrong with campaign groups in the same area helping each other out. i.e. If there are two groups in an area then you both go to each other's protest (once a month at yours and once a month at theirs). Do not exhaust people and do what everyone can manage. If there are elderly people who want to protest, arrange for help getting them there or have someone walk with them to the demonstration if they are unsure on their feet. If it is likely to be a safe demonstration then children would be very welcome.

THE PRESS RELEASE. When you write your Press Release you need to say five things. **What** will happen. **Who** is doing it (and contact details), **Why** you are doing it. **When** the demo will happen. And **where** it will happen.

If you can arrange a demonstration then *you are* having an effect. Make sure it is a good one.

I have a poster about my local mobile phone transmitters which is up in my window . But someone tried to smash in my window. Never demonstrate alone. The other side will call a one person demonstrator a crank. And there is more chance of you being annoyed by those you're demonstrating against if you are on your own. In Scotland, you need a witness if you are assaulted. It is the law. Otherwise it is likely you would not be able to take action against anyone who had harmed you. Do not expect violence but – unfortunately- you need to plan in case it happens.

Do give out leaflets to the worshipers (if outside a Church). Make sure you say nothing libellous or threatening.

If the Press do not turn out (it may be simply that you have not timed the demonstration for a time when the Press are available) then send pictures to the Press and to support groups . The Press only come out for demonstrations at the weekend if they are very big. Learn from what you did wrong or could do better. Always have a friendly and positive post mortem after the first event to think and plan how you can demonstrate even better

next time. Perhaps your Press Officer needs a help. If you can, have two people for every role. This means that if someone is sick or leaves the area there is a trained up replacement ready.

YOUR PROTEST IS IMPORTANT. It is my belief that this will become one of the major health disputes in the World in the next decade. Eventually thousands of people will be protesting and support groups will be massive. This is a campaign that could last decades. Bodies with power and money are not beaten just by just truth and persistence. Use *imagination* and work hard at your campaigning!

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Worthwhile links.

How to find out where and how powerful your local transmitters are.

<http://www.sitefinder.ofcom.org.uk/search>

A useful Health quote:

‘These frequencies have been officially classified as “possibly causing cancer” by WHO and this includes radiation from masts.’

And of course keep in touch with EMF Safety Network:

<http://emfsafetynetwork.org/advocacy-support/emf-and-rf-world-concerns/>