

March 27, 2024

Dear Members of the Fauquier County School Board, Superintendent Warner, and Deputy Superintendent Brill,

My name is Jenny DeMarco, and I am a Fauquier Resident in the Cedar Run District. I am a co-founder and the Communications Director of [Virginians for Safe Technology](#) (VA4ST). VA4ST is a consumer rights advocacy organization whose mission is to protect current and future Virginian's right to safe and responsible technology in this fast growing world of wireless. I just learned of the Milestone Towers proposal for a 150-foot cell phone tower on Liberty High School's property, also adjacent to Grace Miller Elementary School, and I am extremely concerned both as a parent and a citizen.

Decades of independent non-industry funded research shows we could all be adversely impacted by microwave radiation *far* below the FCC Radio Frequency Radiation (RFR) Safety Limits, and our children are disproportionately affected and suffer greater behavioral, emotional, and health impacts from RFR.

As is often the case, you most likely have only heard from the telecom industry - or others who have agreed to put towers on their land - for your education regarding these wireless telecommunications facilities. **I strongly encourage you to hear from non-industry funded independent experts on this topic prior to making a decision that will have an impact on children and faculty in our district for years to come.** Due to my involvement in the wireless issue, I have access to some of the world's leading independent experts on this topic, and I am more than happy to set up any meetings with individuals who will help to give you a more well rounded perspective.

If you'll agree, I'd like to first set up a formal presentation for the board by Kent Chamberlin, a PhD Professor and Chair Emeritus in the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering at the University of New Hampshire. Kent also sat on the (first ever) state appointed New Hampshire Commission to Study the Environmental and Health Effects of Evolving 5G Technology. The November 2020 Final Report of this New Hampshire Commission [findings and recommendations regarding these towers](#), includes a recommended setback of at least 500 meters from where humans work, live, or play.

Many times tower companies will point to the current FCC RFR limits as proof that cell phone towers are safe. You should know that in an August 13, 2021 court case decision, the [Environmental Health Trust, et al. v. FCC & USA, No. 20-1025](#), the DC Court of Appeals deemed the current FCC radiation safety guidelines "arbitrary and capricious."

"The Court [found](#) that the FCC did not provide evidence of properly examining evidence such as":

- impacts of long-term wireless exposure
- impacts to children
- the testimony of persons injured by wireless radiation
- impacts to the developing brain
- impacts to the reproductive system
- impacts to wildlife and the environment.

Here are nearly [11,000 pages of evidence](#) of biological harm occurring at exposures well below the FCC Radio frequency Radiation safety limits, proving the current FCC guidelines are not protective enough for the public - especially our children - to be safe.

Until the FCC responds to this decision, its RFR safety limits that tower companies like Milestone claim to operate under are currently meaningless and unsafe. The [FCC is a captured agency](#) and its policies are out of date, which means other agencies and public officials must step up to mitigate the risk. It should also be noted that RFR is considered an environmental toxin. Insurance companies rate RFR as "[high risk](#)" and exclude coverage of any harm or property loss from RFR as an [industry standard in general liability insurance policies](#). The biggest insurance companies in the world, such as [Lloyds of London](#) and [Swiss Re](#), refuse to insure any of these cellular facilities for RFR injury or harm due to existing concerns regarding potential negative health effects from electromagnetic fields (EMF) likely increasing, resulting in an uptick in liability claims with potentially long-term consequences. Additionally, [RFR is classified as a Group 2B possible carcinogen](#) by the World Health Organization, in the same category of toxins as lead, and should be viewed as a health hazard that needs to be mitigated to safer levels when possible to do so.

Please let me know when I can set up a formal presentation for the Board, Dr. Warner, and Ms. Brill by Mr. Chamberlin. I look forward to having the opportunity to help fully educate you all on this very important issue.

Respectfully,

Jenny DeMarco
Midland, Virginia