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The Round-Table Proposal – Why It Is Obsolete

The publication of the 2007 BioInitiative Report - with the millions of website viewings over five years shows that the world is moving away already from the obsolete positions of ICNIRP and the FCC.

It is clearly counter-productive now to willingly enter the world of ‘diversion, divide, conqueror and exhaust’ which is the time-honored ploy when industry interests decide that outsiders are making a good run at their power base. Our efforts to collaborate with entrenched power structures that have for decades held public health ransom and subverted* efforts for change would only dilute the progress our BioInitiative Working Group has achieved with its two major publications.

ICNIRP, the IEEE/FCC and lobby groups MMF, CTIA and EPRI have risked grave damage to generations of humans, and to the living species of our global environment by failing in their duty to document the science and public health consequences of uncontrolled EMF and RFR exposures, while encouraging the spread of such dangerous exposures. So, we have done it. And, people seem to read and trust it. In one month, the BioInitiative 2012 Report has had over 275 million kilobytes of data downloaded (about 10,000 full copies of a 1480 page report) and about 2.5 million hits in one month since publication at www.bioinitiative.org.

The BioInitiative Working Group provided an independent and unbiased overview of the published scientific literature from four decades of work by researchers around the world. People can read and reason. There is a strong and growing movement that argues for change among decision-makers and the public, outside of the iron grasp of the industry-backed ICNIRP and IEEE/FCC clubs. Adoption of ICNIRP ‘guidelines’ for public safety limits are VOLUNTARILY adopted by each country. When the governments of these countries face public outrage, voter revolt and explosive health care costs, they will do the work themselves. They will reject ICNIRP dogma that has compromised human health, incurred catastrophic costs for disability from chronic diseases and caused economic disruption to global economies. Populations that lose resilience to disease cannot pull countries out of economic stagnation. This movement has arisen in thousands of geographic points, across widely diverse interest groups holding diametrically opposed political and social views around the world.
The reason the BioInitiative work has made such profound changes in world perception of EMF and wireless technologies is precisely because the Working Group did not ask permission. No established governmental group appointed us. We are not on anyones’ payroll. We did not get sequestered behind closed doors where the lock-and-key belongs to an existing, self-serving power structure that controls public health by fiat. We certainly now do not intend to ask forgiveness at some round-table outgunned by the infinite resources of MMF, nor CTIA, nor their industry-backed lobby groups and attorneys and media-spinners. ICNIRP is a tired old group that has seen it’s veil of secrecy and privacy challenged. The FCC ignores evidence of the risks it allows, while tossing the ball to the FDA on health matters, allowing industry to write the rules to accommodate new wireless technologies over health needs, and making money on the sale of the airwaves to spread the health harm to ever greater populations. These groups do not hold enough global respect to be at the table.

The WHO has revealed itself to be a partisan player that cannot be trusted to accept change, even when the documentation comes from its own programs and research experts. I speak here of the actions I observed when the ELF-EMF Health Criteria Monograph was presented by the WHO in Geneva in 2006. The WHO accepted ‘rewrites’ to the cover language for the ELF-EMF Health Criteria Monograph (Press Release) based on the covert input of the electric utility industry point persons (closet advisors from industry) to avoid taking any public health action on ELF-EMF and childhood leukemia. After more than a decade of obfuscation and misleading arguments that it was impossible for such weak fields to affect human biology and diseases, the strength of the evidence finally supported a classification for ELF-EMF as a 2B Possible Human Carcinogen by IARC. What did the upper WHO management do with this? They admitted yes... it may cause childhood leukemia... but the numbers are so few, and the other childhood diseases take so many children in comparison, we will do nothing. Worse, WHO management allowed the Press Release re-write of the Monograph findings – by the same electric utility industry ‘closet advisor’. That inserted language specifically advised against taking any measurements of ELF-EMF to guide health assessments for risks of childhood leukemia, even though the Monograph itself clearly defined exposure levels of ELF-EMF that increased risks to children. The inserted language crippled any future work to remediate environments risky to children, and silenced the debate.
Any reasonable person would have to mistrust a plan that involves the WHO managing the process, that is still under the same Director of Environment and Public Health (Maria Neira, MD). People who do not learn from history are bound to repeat the same mistakes. I believe this proposal, as presented, will result in the same kind of sand-bagging for the RFR classification. Same management, different day, different toxin, same entombment of progress to address a preventable human toxin from affecting more generations of children.

One of the leading thinkers in this field is Alasdair Phillips of the UK Group Powerwatch. We talked recently about the industry-government tactic of ‘managing dissent’ by rounding up those with dissenting views (e.g. views in opposition to entrenched interests) appointing them to official-sounding groups with long meeting agendas over years of time to stymie real progress, exhaust the resources of public participants and weary them to the point of retirement. We compared notes on his experience with the SAGE Group in the UK and my experience in the US with the California Public Utilities Commission EMF Consensus Group; and later the US Department of Energy RAPID research program. In all these cases, the best and the brightest researchers and public health and policy experts were simply ‘corraled’ by the requirements of polite discourse, delayed for years from making real progress in any functional way for societal education or change; and finally spit out by these ‘dialogues’ that resulted in no change whatsoever. In the end, the inclusion of independent thinkers resulted in silencing of public concern but no progress. These were shrewd crisis-containment techniques that derailed legitimate discourse, and progress.

So, the Dariusz Leszczynski proposal for an ICNRP/MMF/BiolInitiative Group roundtable rings hollow. We have been ‘detained’ at such round-tables before, only to be sedated and diverted from any real progress.

So, we have chosen another avenue. We do not waste valuable time, our exceedingly limited resources, nor our good-will on such ‘staged events’ anymore.

Instead, we concentrate on presenting the best, independent, understandable, plain language, scientifically accurate compendium of ALL of the relevant information – to the entire world – for free download – at our own time and expense – so honest and reasonable people everywhere can read and reason. We went outside the construct. That is the reason that people trust our work.
It is a far more powerful way to let the world decide if social changes are necessary.

So, you can take down the corral, Dariusz, because no matter how you salt it, our herd is not coming.

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