

## Cellular monopine being considered near hospital

Appeal hearing to take place Monday

PORTOLA, CA – An appeal is being considered for Verizon's conditional use permit to allow for a 133-foot monopine antenna at the northeast corner of S. Second St. and Grove Ave. The permit was granted, but three individuals filed separate appeals with the city clerk on September 21 regarding it.

The public appeal hearing for this will take place on Monday, October 26 and 6pm Pacific Time. Agendas and packets with information were mailed out to interested parties on Tuesday, October 20. Due to COVID-19, the hearing will take place remotely. City Hall will not be accessible to the public. Those wishing to participate will be able to do so using Zoom or by telephone. Anyone interested in the proceedings may comment in favor or opposition for up to five minutes. Comments may also be submitted to the Portola city clerk in writing by 5pm Monday and they will be read into the record at the time of the meeting. Individuals may only comment once, even if they do not use the full five minutes.

Eastern Plumas Healthcare (EPHC) has opposed the permit. In December 2019, it wrote to the city council "We ask that [you] deny the [cell tower permit] until a comprehensive ordinance regarding placement of cell towers in the City of Portola is drafted with community input...We ask that any ordinance addressing cell tower placement be

See **PORTOLA**, PAGE 2A

## Environmental Health Trust files F.C.C. response brief

Regulatory agency being sued for negligence

On Monday, October 19, 2020, the Children's Health Defense (CHD), chaired by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., filed its response brief in its landmark case against the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. The case challenges the agency's refusal to review its 25-year-old obsolete wireless "health guidelines" and to adopt scientific, biologically based radio frequency emissions rules that adequately protect public health. The brief was filed jointly with the Environmental Health Trust. CHD's brief is a response to the FCC Brief filed on September 22. CHD's principal brief was filed on August 14, 2020.

The National Resources Defense Counsel, Building Biology Institute, attorney Joe Sandri, and Dan and Catherine Kleiber also filed amicus briefs in support of Environmental Health Trust. "The Federal Communications Commission has failed to protect the public from radiofrequency emissions," the NRDC wrote.

The FCC has maintained that its laws are protective, even though they do not take current science into account and do not consider children or vulnerable populations at all. "CHD is committed to protecting children from toxic exposures. This case seeks justice for parents of kids who have suffered health impacts from wireless radiation," said Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. "We are committed to making our government accountable, and giving a voice to injured children."

## National Park cell tower violations pile up

Lawsuit and audit expose shady telecom deals with national parks

WASHINGTON, D.C. – One year after an Interior Inspector General (IG) report slammed national parks for improperly allowing telecoms to install cell towers and other wireless facilities in violation of laws and policies, the violations continue unabated, according to Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER). The group is highlighting ongoing violations, asking the IG to audit the parks again, and suing to force release of documents.

Laws require national parks to assess impacts on the park environment and historic/cultural resources, yet national parks often illegally waive mandated assessments and consultations. National Park Service (NPS) policies requiring early public notification and a transparent review, including display of coverage maps and other relevant information, are also routinely flouted.

In response to the July 2019 IG audit finding widespread violations, NPS vowed to implement a series of reforms, some by October 1 of this year. Yet during the past year, several parks have proceeded with cellular and Wi-Fi installations in violation of the same transparency

See **VIOLATIONS**, PAGE 2A

## Arson continues against 5G equipment

European Union sounding alarm about anti-5G movement

2020 has seen a surge in anti-5G activism targeting small cell equipment, an activity that has prompted the European Union to sound the alarm about the threats posed to 5G deployments.

15 EU capitals warned the EU Commission that a robust strategy for countering public opposition to 5G will be needed so that Europe's digital ambitions can move forward.

"It is clear... that we are witnessing increasing activity of the anti-5G movement across the European Union," the group said, adding that recent attacks on telecom infrastructure "are not only a threat to the economy of the affected member states but hinder also the ability for the European Union to meet its ambitious 5G goals."

The group sent a letter to Commission vice presidents Margrethe Vestager and Vera

See **EUROPEAN UNION**, PAGE 3A

## Foreign diplomats targeted with microwave radiation

China, Russia, and Cuba suspected of targeting American embassies

Many diplomats, C.I.A. officers, and scientists now suspect microwave radiation weapons are being yielded to cause intentional brain damage.

According to a story that surfaced in the *New York Times* on Monday, October 19, 2020, Mark Lenzi, a diplomat who worked for the State Department in Guangzhou, China, experienced the same "mysterious affliction" that dozens in Havana, Cuba, also experienced. Lightheadedness, sleep issues, headaches, bloody noses, and memory loss were just some of the systems.

Record high levels of microwave radiation were recorded in Lenzi's apartment after his wife's mother visited and also fell ill.

American officials have attempted to reassure officers in Guangzhou that this was an isolated case, but Lenzi wrote to the White House that inferior equipment had been used to measure the radiation.

Although such claims might raise eyebrows,

See **MICROWAVES**, PAGE 2A

## Lake Tahoe under "siege" of 5G antennas

Lawsuit to be filed in federal court

LAKE TAHOE, CA – Lake Tahoe, located on the border of California and Nevada, is under siege from an influx of new 5G equipment. Over 100 unregulated 5G antennas have already been installed in Lake Tahoe as of Tuesday, October 20.

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency is also expected to approve the construction of a 112-foot cell tower in the area. But, Lake Tahoe may not be going down without a fight. Local residents are already planning to launch a lawsuit in response to what they claim is recklessness from a "captured regulator". Some contributors voiced that such national treasures need to be conserved and protected from wireless telecom companies. So far, nearly \$1,000 have been raised.

## AT&T paying police to quell 5G opposition

### Berkeley battles over 5G continue

BERKELEY, CA – Opposition to 5G small cell equipment in Berkeley, California continues as AT&T continues to install 5G equipment in opposition to local residents. On Tuesday, October 20, AT&T installers made their way to four different utility poles. Activists from Wireless Radiation Education & Defense (WiRED) tried to prevent installation at a pole near the school administration building on Bonar and University but were forcibly removed by police. A similar fate awaited those who blockaded a pole on MLK Jr. Way and Bancroft Way. Other WiRED members locked arms at People’s Park and were left alone by the police after the crowd of “pole protectors” swelled to two dozen.

At another site later that day near Berkeley High School, Sgt. Ronnie Rodrigues accused the activists of trying to obstruct the work. “We have to stop meeting like this,” Rodrigues said before dragging some of them away. Cynthia Papermaster, among those inside the barrier, said “We have a right to sit on the sidewalk. We weren't breaking laws, but last time, the officer nearly broke my arm. City police should protect the community, not work for AT&T.” Last week, two officers threatened to take Papermaster’s service dog and put him in the pound if she didn’t move away from a pole.

Last week, Berkeley police said “AT&T demanded this action from the City and would reimburse the city for its expenses.”

## SpaceX aims for 100,000 satellites

SpaceX is going live soon with a beta test of global wireless connectivity over Canada and the northern part of the United States. 100,000 satellites are planned to be drifting above us all, which is 50 times the current number. SpaceX, OneWeb, Boeing, and Amazon are all seeking to get in on the action. Many have already gotten approval and launches have begun.

While some companies are excited about the economic prospects, others are more concerned about the environmental implications. With categorical exclusion by the Federal Communications Commission from environmental review from the National Environmental Protection Agency, there is virtually no oversight over this burgeoning industry. Many experts are already alarmed, saying the Earth’s atmosphere is now a “gigantic Superfund site”, and this was in 2018, when there were only 2,000 satellites operating in the atmosphere and 9,000 in total (including dead satellites).

Ozone destruction, stratospheric pollution, weather forecasting and GPS interference, and space debris are just a few of the concerns that have been voiced by scientists around the world. It’s a battle that’s currently playing out in space, along with the battle playing out on the ground over 5G installations all over the world. If unchecked, white zones free of high radiation levels, already fast disappearing, may be completely gone.

## Portola

### From Page 1A

sensitive to the location of schools, hospitals, child care providers and neighborhoods.”

Individual EPHC board members have also written to the city council, one member noting that “Adding this Verizon [tower] so close to exiting residential and healthcare facilities could be adding a time bomb of problems that would be best to avoid.” Another board member said that “A collision of a helicopter with a cell phone tower would likely cause the death of a patient, a nurse, a paramedic and a pilot. [In addition] there are highly credible organized groups of physicians and scientists, as well as academics, who have taken strong stands that cell phone radiation is harmful. Several studies have shown an increase in cancer rates with cell phone radiation exposure.”

Local residents have already expressed opposition to the tower, citing risks to public health safety due to the proposed location being in close proximity to the local hospital. J. Hart, one of the appellants and director of Plumas Wired, is leading local efforts to stop the tower. “This kind of project impacting our local area will continue to pose a serious threat to our health and safety, especially that of our kids, elders, and ill, and it really needs our urgent attention now.”

Hart also iterated that the insurance industry refuses to cover liability for health damage from wireless technology, and that safer, wired options are already available in most areas in town.

“Individual EPHC board members have written, apparently in vain, to the city,” said Hart. “They’re not listening.” Hart urges local residents to show up (virtually) at the Monday hearing to voice their opposition to the tower.

## Verizon draws ire for deceptive ads

### Ad dispute echoes 2018 controversy over Verizon throttling fire department

Verizon Wireless has agreed to suspend some ads touting its wireless service is a “must have” for firefighters and other emergency responders after T-Mobile lodged a complaint with the National Advertising Division.

The complaint has drawn renewed attention to Verizon Wireless’s deceptive advertising practices after it throttled a fire department’s “unlimited” plan in 2018. Verizon continues to hype its 5G services for its supposed ability to “boost firefighters’ ability to save lives.” However, there’s almost no evidence supporting such claims, and these and other deceptive statements led to Verizon pulling the ads. The National Advertising Division also found that several other Verizon advertising claims were not supported with evidence, and firefighters in California fought for exemption from cellular siting preemptions.

In reality, Verizon of late has generally endangered public safety by neglecting outside plant and intentionally letting equipment fail. Steve Marquess, Maryland, used to lease a T1 line out of his house for the OpenSSL Foundation. But Verizon’s declining service levels in recent years, outages that once lasted hours now last days. When Marquess’s \$22,000 T1 contract came up for renewal in 2016, he took a pass and decided to erect a wireless tower in his backyard instead.

## Violations

### From Page 1A

and revenue collection requirements the IG audit cited.

On Thursday, July 23, 2020, PEER took several actions, including:

- Filing a federal Freedom of Information Act lawsuit against five parks for failing to produce documents they are required to publicly display. The five parks are Olympic, Lake Mead, Bryce Canyon, Crater Lake, and Grand Teton – the latter of which PEER had sued in 2018 to force disclosure of plans to install 13 new cell towers;
- Revealing that Yellowstone has never issued rights-of-way for several wireless facilities, and has failed to properly assess costs, thus handing telecoms unwarranted subsidies; and
- Asking the IG to re-audit the parks that are apparently ignoring its findings.

Parks should not have to be sued to force disclosure of information that official policies require be publicly displayed,” stated Pacific PEER Director Jeff Ruch. “The deals that national parks are cutting with telecoms need to be ventilated, not hidden.”

Zion National Park is another case in point. That park has approved a Verizon cell tower to be housed within a more than 36-foot “stealth structure.” Zion will not release details of the plan without permission from Verizon. PEER is preparing to sue Zion to obtain the documents.

“The fact that supposedly impoverished national parks are approving cell tower pagodas in secret during a pandemic is mind boggling,” added Ruch, noting that violations at Grand Teton were largely committed by David Vela, who was then promoted to NPS Deputy Director. “The Park Service’s continuing leadership vacuum perpetuates an almost total lack of accountability by park superintendents who face no consequences for violations.”

**Jeff Ruch**

## Microwaves

### From Page 1A

this would not be the first time such attacks have been used. During the Cold War, the Soviet Union bombarded the American Embassy in Moscow with microwaves. In a 2014 document, the National Security Agency said a high-powered microwave weapon was used to “bathe a target’s living quarters in microwaves.” People familiar with the document say it referred to Russia.

## Phone service out for more than a month

### CenturyLink customer left hanging dry and disconnected

TALLAHASSEE, FL – In a testament to declining service quality nationwide, one Griffin Heights resident in Florida has been without phone service for the past month.

Gwendolyn Thomas, whose mother lives in a low-income area, was told by CenturyLink that the problem stemmed from a damaged telephone circuit.

Thomas's mother relies on her landline for communication and for her home security system. The outage also affects around 100 residents in the area who are all without service.

While CenturyLink has shuffled its feet, Thomas has been forced to shell out for expensive alternatives in the meantime. Last week, she loaded 2,000 minutes onto a flip phone for \$159. In total, she's spent \$300 so far. To add insult to injury, she's also already put in at least 5 repair tickets.

"I understand cut lines," Thomas said. "What I don't understand is 30 days in and you have people that are needing their telephone service."

## Telegrams continue going across the wire

### 17 million telegrams still sent annually

Thought telegrams are a thing of the past? Think again. Although the telegram industry has faded out of the limelight since Western Union gave up the business in 2006, it is still possible to send a telegram in 2020 – if you're willing to pay for it.

iTelegram currently operates much of the world's telegraphy infrastructure. According to the company, many people falsely believe that telegram service no longer exists due to an erroneous story printed in July 2013 by the Christian Science Monitor, which claimed that when India's state-run telegram service shuttered that summer, it was the end of telegrams everywhere. However, telegram service is still available in most countries, including India.

17 million telegrams are sent each year across the globe. Many of them are for weddings, celebrations, or expressing feelings in a meaningful way – President Vladimir Putin of Russia recently sent President Trump a "get well" telegram. They're also popular for legal notifications and contract cancellations. iTelegram retains copies of all telegrams sent for seven years, so telegrams can be legally verified even years later.

iTelegram's service has a worldwide delivery guarantee with proof of delivery available. Although phoning in telegrams or walking them down to a business office was once common, today you can also order them online using a credit card. Domestic mailgrams up to 100 words can be ordered for \$18.95 and are delivered within 3 to 5 business days. Domestic First Class Priority telegrams are \$28.95 + \$0.75 per word with delivery within 24 hours, an included phonegram, and proof of delivery with detailed information.

## European Union

### From Page 1A

Jourová as well as digital commissioner Thierry Breton late last week. The letter was initiated by Poland and backed by Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Portugal, Slovakia and Sweden. Industry groups also warned earlier this year of increasing pushback from protest groups on 5G rollout.

For the 15 capitals that signed the letter, "it is important to act now to inform the public of the benefits of 5G," they wrote, asking for an "EU communication strategy that provides reliable information" on 5G and electromagnetic fields. We should be able not only to provide EU citizens and local authorities with scientific research but, also, with [a] clear and loud message coming from a trusted sources," they wrote, adding "a broad and inclusive debate will ultimately contribute to creating trust."

Yet, the signatories have ignored recent science, such as the study by the National Toxicology Program, showing clear evidence of cancer risk. Major newspapers such as *New York Times* have also cast doubt on the science before, including running a pseudoscientific article claiming that 5G posed no health hazards, even though science overwhelmingly says otherwise.

So far, of the 27 countries in the EU, ten have seen attacks on telecom infrastructure. The United Kingdom has seen the most of any of them – 87 in total so far. France (50), the Netherlands (30), and New Zealand (17) have also seen significant numbers of arson attacks on 5G infrastructure. Australia, Canada, Poland, and the United States have seen five so far.

## A thousand telephones that don't ring

### Iconic Bob Dylan song predicted the future

Folk rock fans may well remember folk rock singer Bob Dylan's hit *Highway 61 Revisited*, released on Dylan's critically successful 1965 album of the same name. (This album is more well-known for spawning *Like a Rolling Stone*, the number 1 song of all time as ranked by Billboard Magazine.)

The lyrics to the song contain:

*"And a thousand telephones that don't ring / Do you know where I can get rid of these things?"*

Dylan goes on to sing that Louie the King knows the answer: just take everything down to Highway 61.

Repeatedly referenced throughout the song, Highway 61 runs from Duluth, MN, where Dylan grew up all the way down to New Orleans, LA. What Dylan didn't know when he sang these lyrics was that decades later, exactly such a thing would come to fruition, not very far from Highway 61.

Turtle Lake, WI became the home to a mountain of abandoned telephones in the early 2000s. At one point, it was piled high with all kinds of telephones that had been discarded.

Sadly, the pile of telephones no longer exists. Perhaps they were taken down Highway 61.

## Ransomware gang donates to charity

### Over \$10,000 in donations from ransom demands

A ransomware group by the name of Darkside has been getting attention for donating parts of its ransom demands to charity organizations.

Children International, a non-profit sponsoring children in poverty, and The Water Project, a non-profit providing clean water access in Africa, both reached 0.88 bitcoin last week, which amounts to around \$10,000.

Darkside specifically targets large corporations by encrypting their data and demanding huge ransoms on the order of millions of dollars. If companies refuse to pay, they leak their data online on the dark web. Darkside has promised not to encrypt files belonging to hospitals, schools, non-profits, and the government.

"We are targeting only large profitable corporations," the group said Monday, October 19. "We think it's fair that some of the money they've paid will go to charity. No matter how bad you think our work is, we are pleased to know that we helped change someone's life."

However, it is illegal to use funds received as part of a crime, so the donations will most likely be seized or returned.

*"Facts don't cease to exist just because they are ignored." — Aldous Huxley*

*"The further a society drifts from the truth, the more it will hate those that speak it." — George Orwell*

## OPINION

### Letters to the Editor

*“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.” — Martin Luther King, Jr.*

**LETTERS POLICY:** Letters should be typewritten, signed, and include phone number, city, and state. Phone numbers will not be printed when letters appear. We reserve the right to edit letters for length and clarity. Please keep letters to no more than 300 words. Submit letters at <https://nocarrier.interlinked.us>

We want to hear from you! Send in your letters to the editor at <https://nocarrier.interlinked.us> – include your full name, city and state, and email and telephone number (for verification only).

Views expressed in letters to the editor do not reflect those of this publication or its general readership.

Topics are not restricted strictly to the focus of this newspaper, but we may prioritize more relevant letters over less relevant ones if there are space constraints. Well-articulated and thought-provoking letters are encouraged. All political viewpoints are welcome, but we reserve the right to refuse to publish material that is primarily hateful, inciteful, misleading, nonfactual, or inflammatory.

### Another Inconvenient Truth: Children and cell phones

You’ve probably seen children, even toddlers on Television talking on a cellphone, they’re even in advertisements. So how old, do you think, a child should be to have a cellphone? Do you think cellphones are safe for children? Before you answer these questions, let’s discuss some preliminary questions that you might not ask or know about like: How cellphones are tested for safety? What are they testing for? And why they use these tests?

Federal Communications Commissions (FCC) allows two different methods for certifying cellphones, Specific Anthropomorphic Mannequin (SAM) and Finite-Difference Time-Domain (FDTD). Testing a cellphone with SAM they use a plastic head, patterned from a 6’ 2” 180-pound man, representing about 3% of the U.S. population. A homogenized liquid containing 40 tissue samples of the head is poured into a hole at the top of this head and an electric field probe is positioned within the hole. The cellphone to be certified is clamped to SAM approximately one-half-inch away from the head. They’re testing electric field intensities for Specific Absorption Rate (SAR), or how much radiation that’s absorbed into the soup will heat the head 1°C. If the maximum absorption is at or below the exposure limit of 1.6 W/kg, a threshold for heating the body, the phone is certified for sale. There is a ±30% tolerance of the SAM certification process. SAM doesn’t test for any specific organ, gland, or tissue just the soup. SAM doesn’t differentiate between men, women or children and is the only certification test that has been done on cellphones. FDTD testing is a computer algorithm and has been the best

way to simulate the amount of absorbed microwave radiation in tissues for many decades. In 1997 the FCC stated, “Currently, the finite-difference time-domain algorithm is the most widely accepted computational method for SAR modeling”.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) uses FDTD testing for medical microwave treatment devices. FDTD testing uses the “Virtual Family” and tests for:

- Any age
- Male, female, pregnant with fetus
- Any body part: organs (eyes with glasses with or without metal frames); breasts & bra with or without metal stays
- Glands & different tissues

FDTD costs less than SAM and has never been used to certify cellphones. Why does the TCI choose a more expensive testing, one that is less accurate, can’t test children or women, and can’t test brain tissue, organs or glands? There’s no way to know for sure so I can only speculate trying to use common sense and some facts. The TCI’s choice of size, inaccuracy, and SAM representing only large males, it’s reasonable to think they would rather test something that can absorb more radiation so their phones can be more powerful and still pass testing. Having a more powerful cellphone means better reception, less dead zones, and fewer dropped calls, creating a more desirable product. If the TCI used FDTD and tested children and women, especially pregnant with fetus, there could be cellphones that would not be certified or would have to have warning labels for these population groups that have higher absorption rates than large men. It also looks like the Telecommunications Industry doesn’t want different organs, glands or tissue tested, why? It would be reasonable to conclude that there’re cellphones being sold today that couldn’t pass the FCC “Safety Guidelines” if the FDTD testing was used.

TCI uses the FCC “Safety Guidelines” that allows cellphone certification if radiation intensities don’t heat your body within six-

minutes of use. May 30, 2011 The World Health Organization classified EMF/RF radiation a Class 2B Possible Carcinogen. May 27, 2016 our Governments National Toxicology Program completed \$25 million rodent study initiated by the FDA that connected cell phone use to cancer. The Ramazzini Institute has duplicated and verified the NTP’s results. All this coupled with the Telecommunication Industry’s resistance to put warning labels on their cellphones denoting safe usage and in light of all the studies showing adverse health effects; it’s now time to educate yourselves and take action for your children’s safety. If you feel your child absolutely needs a cellphone you need to turn off the wi-fi so it won’t radiate continuously. Encourage your child to text only, if the phone is setup properly it will not radiate while they’re typing and looking at photos; it just radiates when sending and receiving something. The safest phones are 3G and they’re being phased out completely by 2022. Cellphones are never safe for children and parents should wait one year after menarche or voice change before even considering one for your teenager and closely monitor their use. Ten years of high usage puts you and your child at high risk for brain and heart cancers. If you consistently entertain your toddler with your cellphone with Wi-Fi or internet antennas on they could be at high risk for cancer when they graduate from grade school.

**Richard Cristdahl**  
Nevada City, CA

## CLASSIFIEDS



StopSmartMeters! sells EMF meters for less than anyone else! 100% satisfaction guaranteed. Free domestic shipping. StopSmartMeters.org or 1-888-965-6435



Discounted teleconferencing for non-profit organizations and small businesses. \$5/month for unlimited conferencing duration and attendees. Dedicated phone number for your conference with free recording included. Flexible payment options available. (406) 957-1818 x0.

The EMF Medical Conference 2021, a virtual conference, will convene Jan. 28-31, 2021 to review the latest exposure science. Leading physicians, clinicians, and scientists will conduct presentations on the recognition, diagnosis, and treatment of EMF associated illness. 4 days of learning, 34 lectures, 6 panels, EMF meter workshop. This conference has been approved for 16.5 hours of CME. <https://emfconference2021.com>

Anti-Digit Dialing League. Will you be forced to dial 10 digits locally because of the FCC's 988 order? If so, you are not alone – 83 area codes will be! Join us in our opposition to 10-digit dialing for local calls! We oppose overlays and we are fighting for a more just implementation of 988. Join your local chapter today! [addl.phreaknet.org](http://addl.phreaknet.org). Dues, none; donations, sought.

Time and Temperature. One call gets it all! Time, weather, temperature, use it often! Call now, call often for the latest information. Numbers available near you. Butte, Montana (406) 957-1616. Waukesha, WI (262) 261-3426. San Francisco, CA (415) 475-9034. Chattanooga, TN (731) 468-9167. No charge for calls, other than standard toll or long-distance charges.

Interested in promoting your business? All inbound callers will hear your personalized ad. Call (406) 957-1717 to negotiate a rate.

HELENA, MT – Helena Time & Temperature under new ownership but continuing to provide the same great service. We receive over 5,000 calls per month! Unparalleled convenience and accuracy – call (406) 442-1730 24/7/365!

# YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!

See page 5A for  
Classifieds  
submissions  
instructions.

## HUMOR



© Go with Flo. 2019.

*No Carrier* is a an independent, non-partisan newspaper published periodically covering wired and wireless telecom and technology news and activism. Are you regularly disappointed when important news doesn't make it to print? Send your submissions in for consideration at <https://nocarrier.interlinked.us>.

*Classified ads that promote the public welfare are free of charge. A minimal charge applies for all other promotions. Free and independent press is a vital community asset. Consider supporting this publication with a small donation.*

*This may be redistributed freely, without modification, with no other restrictions. No republishing, with or without modification, is permitted without the express approval of the publisher.*

Visit us on the web at <https://nocarrier.interlinked.us> or contact us by telephone at (406) 957-1900.

## NIPDAQ

The State of the Nation's  
Payphones

+741 ▲ 48452 9/22

## FIRST AMENDMENT

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gives the press the right to publish news, information and opinions without government interference. This also means people have the right to publish their own newspapers, newsletters, magazines, etc.

## SATIRE

### Forget Condoms: Mobiles Found to be Effective Birth Control Agent

It's official: wireless carriers, like AT&T and Verizon Wireless, are taking on the condom industry.

"We already do everything on our mobiles," said FCC Chairman Ajit Pai at a conference organized by the CTIA, his former current allegiance. "They are probably the most personal tool a person uses in a day. That's why it's incredibly exciting that in the future, people may not be using condoms anymore."

Apple has recently begun publicly promoting and advertising this feature. "At Apple, we're very proud of how much our customers confide in us and how much they trust us," said Apple CEO Tim Cook. "We strive to make life for our customers as convenient as possible, and today, people have their iPhones with them at all times. It's really only a matter of time until condoms will be redundant because our newest iPhones should be sufficient."

What Cook was implicitly referring to was the SAR values measured for his company's recent models. While in previous years, Apple has denied that RF radiation emitted by its products and those of other wireless companies could be harmful, Cook realized that they had been approaching the issue completely wrong.

"Of course it's harmful, all the scientists know that," an internal memo by Cook leaked on WikiLeaks explained. "But rather than trying to BS the public into thinking this stuff is safe when it's not, a change in perspective and utility is all that is required. If you spin any piece of information the right way, it becomes a product. It's really a question of marketing. We are uniquely poised to fill a very private and sensitive need in people's lives: what gadget do people trust implicitly more than their iPhone? Moving from analog condoms to digital iPhones is an obvious next step."

Apple's new iPhone manuals now come with the following statement: "Prolonged use of this product in proximity to the human genitalia has been demonstrated to have a positive impact on limiting the amount of viable sperm that could possibly result in undesired fertilization during copulation. For the best result, keep this device stored in a pants pocket/in contact with the genital area when not in use."

Apple included the helpful statement after noticing that many people were carrying their iPhones around in their hands rather than keeping them in their pockets, where they were more likely to exceed FCC guidelines and decimate sperm. "Some customers have complained that they have an iPhone and they have a one night stand or something and next thing you know, they're paying for child support," Cook explained. "Well, clearly, we're not liable for that, but in order to provide maximum convenience for our customers, we've increased the RF output quite a bit and encouraged customers to keep them in their

pants pockets where they belong. The manual also discourages keeping them in your bra, as that is likely to result in breast cancer instead. Women who tuck their iPhones into their underwear are more likely to realize weaker and fewer eggs.

"Basically, if two people hook up and they've both been storing their iPhones near their sex organs for many years, there's a significantly reduced probability of that encounter resulting in an unwanted fetus. We're still a ways from complete sterility," Cook granted, "but progress has been occurring at a good rate."

It'll still be a few years before your iPhone will fully replace your condom, reproductive health experts say. One side effect of using iPhones as birth control is that although sperm count is significantly reduced in men who generally keep their iPhone near their testicles, the remaining sperm are not completely decimated but generally weakened, which significantly increases the chance that a child will be born deformed or with cognitive disabilities. "Of course, nobody wants that," Cook admitted, "and so we're hoping that as people begin using these devices starting in childhood, hopefully by the time they're an adult, they'll be unable to conceive."

Although reception has been overwhelmingly positive, some medical critics on the fringe have criticized how difficult iPhones will make it for future generations to intentionally reproduce through copulation. One doctor said, "Back in my day, you slept with your spouse and made kids. Now, you sleep with your iPhone and get sterile."

"I don't really pay attention to them," Cook admits. "Even if our product completely decimated 99.9% of a man's sperm, modern medical techniques make it possible to extract a viable specimen if needed. There's always that option. We've made the choice as a society now from going to an "opting-out" procedure during sex by use of condoms to an "opting-in" procedure, which is really just far more convenient for the vast majority of people who want the sex but not the babies."

Most industry critics agree, and Apple has given other mobile phone manufacturers a run for their money. Now, the race continues to raise SAR limits and lobby the FCC for further increases in what is already a meaningless benchmark. "If other manufacturers can't deliver the way Apple has," said one industry analyst, "they will quickly become irrelevant." Indeed, many developers have already zoomed in on the opportunities available for the iOS platforms. Several apps in the App Store are now available that can sense when the device is in a pocket and will automatically track and generate insights and statistics over time on how likely you are to get someone pregnant based on your usage so far. "The general idea of these apps is that people can be surer of themselves before going into it," an app developer from California explained by phone. "Obviously, the likelihood goes down over time, but the threshold of when someone feels comfortable without using a condom anymore differs by person. One thing I want to stress is that we are not guaranteeing anything here. We merely provide a useful way to measure and track your infertility over time."

One parent we interviewed, who wishes to remain anonymous explained that her 3-year old infant son already has an iPhone and his diaper

has a "mobile pocket" for it. "What is inevitable is that one day he is going to be interested in girls," the mother explained. "Now, hopefully he'll be too addicted to his iPhone to want to hook up with a girl or anything, but if he does, at least I have the peace of mind he won't end up paying child support or something for a decision he didn't fully think out. And, you know, I think pretty soon, all young boys will have iPhones, and this could be a really could thing for girls, especially if they themselves were also brought up with these devices. In the unfortunate case that rape does occur, it's far less likely to result in an unwanted child."

Ultimately, Cook expects the condom industry has a limited lifespan ahead of it. "You know, they really don't like us, because sexting really took the spotlight away from sex for awhile. But, twenty, thirty years from now," Cook said, "I don't really expect them to be a thing anymore. People will be able to have sex without worrying about accidentally having offspring. And, of course, they'll be able to do it much more naturally — Nobody wants a disgusting condom between him and his partner. With our far less invasive method of birth control, people can finally enjoy sex as it was meant to be — naturally with full contact for maximum sexiness."

The future looks bleak for condoms indeed, but it's possible condom manufacturers may have the last laugh. "What Cook didn't mention is that even with current usage patterns of mobile devices, particularly in proximity to our reproductive organs when on standby, is that humanity is projected to be completely sterile within five generations," said a representative from Trojan condoms. "And, you know, really, I think I'd rather prefer if we weren't around by then to experience that. I'd like to kick my feet back a bit before we go extinct."

Although it's not yet clear if condoms may soon go the way of the landline ("the old-fashioned phone that doesn't conveniently boost your sex life for you", as Cook puts it), one thing is sure: those looking to get the most of their iPhones should plan to start early. Although Apple is working on making its devices better able to reduce viable sperm count, it's a gradual process that takes time. If you don't want any basement surprises when your teenager has matured, it's best to stick on the safe side and get him or her an iPhone as soon as possible, preferably by the third birthday."

*Reprinted with permission from "The DiaLog". This column is fictitious satire and is not meant to be taken literally.*