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BETREFF
Recommendation for exposure limit values for
GSM mobile phone base stations

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Dear Mr. Hug!

Thank you for your request from August 12th 2004. You asked the public health department of the government of Salzburg for a recommendation on a limit value for the exposure to GSM mobile phone base stations.

Our unit for environmental health which is a part of the public health department is working on the GSM mobile phone base station issue since 1996. Our environmental health unit has a huge amount of empirical evidence, overlooks the literature and has just finished an epidemiological study in cooperation with the University of Valencia on the microwave syndrome.

We conclude that long term exposure to GSM mobile phone base stations in the order of $10 \mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ ($0,06 \text{ V}/\text{m}$) and upwards might be a serious risk factor for some people. The risk might be substantially elevated for several symptoms which belong to the microwave sickness: fatigue, irritability, headaches, nausea, loss of appetite, sleeping disorders, depressive tendency, feeling of discomfort, difficulty in concentration, loss of memory, visual disorders, dizziness, cardiovascular problems etc. Therefore the public health department of Salzburg recommends since February 2002 a limit value of $0,06 \text{ V}/\text{m}$ outside and $0,02 \text{ V}/\text{m}$ inside buildings for the sum total of all GSM signals (BCCH and TCH) from GSM mobile phone base stations (900 MHz and/or 1800 MHz) working under full load.

Best regards
For the Salzburg Government

Dr. Gerd Oberfeld


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