

CHARLESTON COALITION for WIRELESS SAFETY STANDARDS

October 15, 2020

Dear Mr. Thorn,

CC: James Island Charter High School Board of Directors

I thank you for your continuous efforts to create a safe and effective learning environment for students, especially with the current challenges and for allowing us to participate in the upcoming JICHS Board meeting. ***We will be initiating discussion about the currently active CCSD contract with Milestone Communications and proposed cell phone towers installed on area schools.*** Milestone's prospective cell tower location list includes, James Island Charter High School, but according to the agreement all Charleston county schools are options.

According to our correspondence with Mr. Borowy, the COO of CCSD, after Milestone selects a school where they would like to install a cell tower, the community is engaged to allow them to give feedback and be part of the process. Via email Mr. Borowy said, "once all community considerations have been addressed, Milestone would take the rezoning request before the local municipality for zoning approval." At which point a cell tower would be installed on the school or school grounds.

I/We feel it is critical that parents and the school community are made aware of this issue now, allowing time for research and discussion. ***An unexpected permit request puts concerned parents at a disadvantage.*** There is no official timeline for this process and a Notice to Proceed with installation of a cell tower on any CCSD school could be submitted at any time.

Cell tower locations in close proximity to children have already been defeated in Mount Pleasant. In 2019, ***parents at Moultrie Middle School were able to block a permit for a cell tower installation on the school.*** We also have video of a June 2020 Mount Pleasant Town Hall meeting where citizen opposition blocked the permitting of a cell tower on a playground on Long Point Road. ***Sixteen residents spoke in opposition, including local physicians, two attorneys and a retired Wireless Telecom Executive. The permit was denied.***

Wireless companies claim their antennas and other wireless equipment meet all Federal Communications Commission (FCC) exposure guidelines. But the ***FCC guidelines are almost 25 years out of date and the testing measured only the thermal impact or heating of tissue, not the biological effects on the tissue.*** The dated FCC testing also doesn't account for the extreme increase in cumulative microwave radiation we are constantly exposed to from modern wireless devices, cell phones, WIFI, laptops, tablets, video game consoles, Fitbits, ear pods, etc., in and around our schools and homes. ***In February 2020, the Children's Health Defense filed a lawsuit against the FCC for its refusal to review their 25-year-old guidelines,*** and to provide scientific, human evidence-based wireless safety standards to protect public health.

(continued, p.2)

579 Folly Road • P.O. Box 13874 • Charleston, South Carolina 29422

Over the past several decades, independent researchers have published, and continue to publish at an accelerating pace, ***thousands of peer-reviewed scientific studies documenting serious adverse health impacts from exposure to wireless radiation, ranging from neurological and behavioral problems to cancer.*** We have attached a document with a small sampling of studies with live links. Of particular concern is the fact ***that there have been no human health studies specific to 5G wireless technology, which would be one of the frequencies transmitted through the proposed tower on our school's property, in very near proximity to our children and teachers.***

It is our collective responsibility to keep our children safe and this issue must be investigated. We should follow the Precautionary Principle when it comes to health implications and proximity to any wireless technology, but especially powerful 5G infrastructure. ***It is important to note that a tower on the school is not necessary to deliver 5G capabilities to the school.*** 5G can be delivered to the school via fiber optic cable. A more reliable, and safe option for high speed internet than wireless delivery methods.

In closing, we feel it is imperative that parents are made aware of the Milestone contract, the process that lies ahead, and how they can get involved when a permit is requested for a tower installation for James Island Charter High School.

We have attached a document with a list of studies of wireless radiation on human health (with live links). We have also attached a petition signed by 1,083 CCSD parents opposing a tower on Moultrie Middle School last year. When Milestone Communications learned of the petition, they withdrew their tower application.

Sincerely,

Karen Beard, Charleston Coalition for Wireless Safety Standards

Alison Van Horn, Charleston Coalition for Wireless Safety Standards

Amy McLeod, The McLeod Law Firm LLC, legal counsel for Charleston Coalition for Wireless Safety Standards

CITY of CHARLESTON OFFICIALS:

Jason Sakran, City of Charleston, City Councilmember District 3

Carol Jackson, City of Charleston, City Councilmember District 12

SOUTH CAROLINA CANDIDATES:

Kathryn B. Whitaker, Candidate for SC Senate District 37

(continued, p.3)

LOCAL & REGIONAL MEDICAL, WIRELESS INDUSTRY & EMF PROFESSIONALS:

Karen Gadol, PA-C, CNC, CLT, Mt Pleasant

Melissa Engdahl, Committee Member for Camp Happy Days serving children of S.C. diagnosed with cancer, Charleston

Dr. Natalie Sadler, M. D., speaker at S.C. State 2020 Subcommittee opposing "Small Cell Wireless" bill

Mark A., former telecom industry executive, Mt. Pleasant

Dr. Cindy Russell, M.D., Executive Director of "Physicians for Safe Technology"

Dr. David Carpenter, M.D., Director of Health & Environment, Albany NY

Lex Kisteneff, CEO & Founder of SC Coalition for Wireless Safety Standards, Columbia

Terry Hassler, Building Biology Certified Radiation Specialist

Mary Anne Tierney, RN, MPH, Building Biologist certified, founder "Safe Tech Kids, North Carolina"