

ARE YOU AWARE THAT THE PLACEMENT OF A 138kv TRANSMISSION LINE DOWN CLAY STREET COULD DOUBLE YOUR RISK OF CANCER!!!!!!

I have been conducting a review of available medical literature on the health effects of living in close proximity to these lines. There is a statistically significant elevation in cancer risk for people living near 138kv transmission lines, which is supported by much research. First Energy has been in the business of property destruction for many years now - with no apparent concern for property aesthetics or value. I am not convinced that a public outcry over lowered property value and/or destruction will be enough to alter the opinions of the siting board on the proposed line site. However public concern over the health effects of this line would get more attention. It seems to me that the major concern for First Energy is their bottom line - \$\$\$\$\$. The fear of potential lawsuits resulting from cancer clusters developing amongst Clay St. residents may exert considerable influence over their decision.

Despite claims to the contrary, the debate is still out on the safety of EMF exposure from high voltage lines on human health. Many reputable scientists conducting research on this subject have demonstrated that EMF exposure from such high voltage lines can induce cellular and biological changes in human organisms.

Such changes consist of:

1. Changes in immune function
2. Alterations in the production of melatonin
3. Changes in biorhythm
4. Notable changes in human brain activity and heart function
5. Cancer clustering (particularly childhood leukemia and brain tumors) in residential areas around high voltage lines

Although other studies have been done in an attempt to discredit research showing a positive correlation between EMF exposure and health risks in humans, research either conducted or funded by the electrical industry cannot be trusted.

Recently, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC 2002) designated EMFs as a class 2B carcinogen ("possibly carcinogenic"), based on **"consistent statistical associations of high-level residential magnetic fields with a doubling of the risk of childhood leukemia."** The California Department of Health Services (CADHS 2002) recently issued a report concluding that "EMFs can cause some degree of increased risk of childhood leukemia, adult brain cancer, Lou Gehrig's disease, and miscarriage."

In a 2003 review of the epidemiology and laboratory studies relevant to whether power-frequency magnetic fields could be a risk factor for childhood leukemia, Ahlbom and Feychting [A19] concluded that:

To date, close to 20 studies on childhood cancer and residential exposure to ELF fields have been published. The studies have generally been of increasing methodological strengths... To assess the overall evidence, a pooled analysis was carried out based on

primary data from the subgroup of nine studies fulfilling certain quality criteria. The principal finding of the pooled analysis was that residential magnetic field exposure in excess of 0.4 μ T was associated with about a doubling in the relative risk of childhood leukemia. **It was concluded that chance was an unlikely explanation**, but that systematic error could explain some of the observed excess risk..."

While it is apparent that EMF exposure does not directly cause leukemia in children, it is still unclear whether such exposure can induce cellular changes that could increase the risk of developing leukemia via the disruption of cellular function in the human body. Much research still needs to be done before the safety of children and adults living near high voltage lines can be guaranteed. There is NO EXCUSE for First Energy to put these lines near our homes and risk our health.

It is quite clear that some associations and evidence of cancer clustering around high voltage lines have been made. And until more studies can be done to either verify or dismiss this risk, I believe caution is warranted and unnecessary risks to the citizens of Clay and Rt. 528 should be avoided.

The following scientific research studies are just a few that have demonstrated a link between EMF exposure and increase cancer risk:

N Wertheimer and E Leeper: Electrical wiring configurations and childhood cancer. Am J Epidem 109:273-284, 1979.

DA Savitz et al: Case-control study of childhood cancer and exposure to 60-Hz magnetic fields. Am J Epidem 128:21-38, 1988.

SJ London et al: Exposure to residential electric and magnetic fields and risk of childhood leukemia. Am J Epidem 134:923-937, 1991

LM Green, AB Miller et al: Childhood leukemia and personal monitoring of residential exposures to electric and magnetic fields in Ontario, Canada. Cancer Causes Control 10:233-243, 1999.

JH Olsen et al: Residence near high voltage facilities and risk of cancer in children. BR MED J 307:891-895, 1993.

LM Green, AB Miller et al: A case-control study of childhood leukemia in southern Ontario, Canada, and exposure to magnetic fields in residences. Int J Cancer 82:161-170, 1999.

CY Li et al: Residential exposure to 60-Hertz magnetic fields and adult cancers in Taiwan. Epidemiology 8:25-30, 1997

S Greenland, AR Sheppard et al: A pooled analysis of magnetic fields, wirecodes, and childhood leukemia. Epidemiology 11:624-634, 2000

For a well written and thorough explanation of the health risks of EMFs please visit -
<http://www.midtod.com/9603/voltage.phtml>

Your health and the health of your children is of more value than your property! Let them know that you will hold them accountable for any ill health effects resulting from these lines! If you are concerned, please express this concern to the following people:

To contact **Mia Moore**, First Energy's area manager at 440-350-7706 or
MLMOORE@firstenergycorp.com

American Transmission Systems Inc.

Attn: The Geauga 138kV Line Transmission Supply Project Team
Room A-GO-10
76 South Main St.
Akron, OH 44308

FIRST ENERGY COMMENT LINE

1-800-589-2837

Thank you,

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