

Commonwealth Club of California  
“The Health Effects of Electromagnetic Fields”  
November 18, 2010

**Opening Remarks by Camilla Rees, Founder,  
ElectromagneticHealth.org**

**Thank you very much!**

I am so grateful for this opportunity for Electromagnetic Health to co-organize today’s program on “**The Health Effects of Electromagnetic Fields**” with the Commonwealth Club of California in association with **Citizens for Health**, the **American Academy of Environmental Medicine**, **EMF Safety Alliance**, **Radiation Research Trust** and the new Norwegian-based **International EMF Alliance** formed by Sissel Halmoy, who is with us today, and a rapidly growing collaboration of over 50 EMF advocacy groups around the globe. Groups from San Francisco to Johannesburg, Sydney to Stockholm, Vermont and Virginia to the Netherlands, Finland, France, Spain, Canada, Italy, Malaysia, Japan, Norway, where the group was formed, Belgium, Ireland, the U.K. and many, many more locations around the globe.

**There is a Global Response happening!**

Clearly something is amiss!

On *every continent in the world* people are questioning the sanity of exposing vulnerable life forms to cell phone and wireless radiation.

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**Paul Hawken**, in the film, **Blessed Unrest**, said the hundreds of thousands of environmental and social justice organizations springing up around the globe on every continent are our society’s immune response to the world we have created.

The experts you are going to hear in today’s program, and many of you in the audience, are an extremely important subset of that immune response.

A critically important subset that some believe is as important to the future of life on this planet as Global Warming.

**As you will hear today;**

- they are disrupting our ecosystem in very serious, but little understood, ways;
- and there is grave concern about what blanketing ourselves in these disruptive fields is doing to our genetic materiel long term.

***But WE are the immune response.***

**And we CAN change the unconscious trajectory society is on**—disconnected from the natural laws of life-- developing technologies, even so-called ‘green’ technologies in the name of sustainability, without any responsibility for their biological effects, without concern for life.

I hope that after today’s program you will join us in taking a stand for life—for my life, your life, your children's lives, your parents lives, the life of people all over this globe currently being impaired by exposure to telecommunications and utility technologies, and the lives of future generations.

From my view, all we need to do to change almost any problem with society today is to *connect to our most deeply held values*---and *use our voices to express them*, inspiring others to join in and change the world together—to bring the world back to wholeness and integrity, where the whole footprint of our actions is taken into consideration in NEW technologies.

**Health and harmony and peace are True North.** It’s there waiting for us to remember, and connect to it, and to stop our addictions to unsafe technologies, and to short-term stimuli at the expense of health, relationships and lives of meaning.

Thank you for being with us today. We have a terrific program and we hope it is *deeply moving* for you—not just interesting intellectually, where you learn a lot about the science-- but that you grasp the urgent importance of becoming an activated global citizen on this subject—connected to the courage and the power of your conscience.

**There are 4 components to today’s program:**

**Panel I** - The History of Electromagnetic Pollution, that includes a very short video on the environmental effects

**Panel 2** - Perspectives on the Science: Impacts on DNA, Cells, Organs and the Body’s Regulatory Systems

**Panel 3** – Highlights 3 ‘Underappreciated Risks’ – including impacts on children in schools, very little known risks from dirty power or electricity, and hazards of Smart Meters, new radiation-emitting utility technologies, being resisted on health grounds but also for reasons of security, privacy, fire safety, economic grounds, homeland security and more

**Panel 4** – Presentation on New Recommended Exposure Guidelines and a short film on Public Policy Directions, and then some Closing Remarks and more Q&A

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Before we welcome our first panel, I’d just like to take a moment of silence and encourage you to connect to the place within yourself...

- where you know you were born to be a steward of this earth
- and where you know together we are powerful, and can change anything, especially if it's an urgent public health issue.
- the place where you can re-imagine a new, health-supporting world, and economy, based first and foremost *on a reverence for life*.

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Ladies & Gentlemen--Please give a warm welcome our first panel including Eileen O'Conner of the Radiation Research Trust in the U.K., Dr. Olle Johansson of the Karolinska Institute in Sweden, Starling Childs, geologist and forestry consultant affiliated with Yale University and Dr. Magda Havas of Trent University in Canada.

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### **Ending Remarks**

First, I want to give thanks.

For the contributions of all of the panelists who have traveled from many countries for today's program on the Health Effects of Electromagnetic Fields.

Also thanks to the Commonwealth Club, Bill Grant and the 3 Member Led Forums who have supported this program—Health & Medicine, Environment & Natural Resources and Science and Technology.

Finally, this event wouldn't be happening unless we had the support from:

- a billionaire in Scandinavia
- a 92 year old lady in Long Island
- a businessman in Portland, OR
- a telecom executive in Spain
- a partner in a law firm in Manhattan
- a 94 year old long-term funder of science
- a Dot.com CEO
- an electrically sensitive, diabetic young woman, my assistant Emily,
- and finally, *among many others*, a philanthropist who is highly committed to bringing more and more philanthropists to this field if we can match a challenge grant for a global awareness-raising and fundraising film using the video footage from today's program--- appealing to leaders in government, medicine, business and education—**encouraging them to assume responsibility** and to join us in filling the **vacuum created by the failure of government**, under the undue influence of commercial interests.

If you can help us match a sizable grant, let us know.

When Paul Hawken researched groups around the world dedicated to restoring the environment and fostering social justice—groups he said that ranged in size from billion-dollar nonprofits to single-person dot-causes, he said these groups “**collectively comprise the largest movement on earth, a movement that has no name, leader, or location, and that has gone largely ignored by politicians and the media. Like nature itself, it is organizing from the bottom up, in every city, town, and culture, and is emerging to be an extraordinary and creative expression of people's needs worldwide.**”

That is exactly what is happening, with people who care about the unchecked proliferation of electromagnetic fields. **And we need YOU to join in!**

A. **Sign ElectromagneticHealth.org’s [EMF Petition to Congress](#)**

B. **Write your Members of Congress**

C. **Take this footage and share it widely. Use it to empower government leaders, physicians, health practitioners, parents, educators, and employers to make the right choices to protect health**

D. **Get Books on this topic in independent books stores in your neighborhoods.**  
[www.BestEMFBooks.com](http://www.BestEMFBooks.com)

E. Tell your schools about 1) the [BRAG Antenna Ranking of Schools Report](#) and how they can encourage electromagnetic health evaluations as part of schools annual environmental toxics audit 2) about the [Campaign for Radiation Free Schools on Facebook](#) and 3) the new [EMF Help Blog™](#) there.

F. **DONATE TO THIS CAUSE: Support the science, the advocacy and the long list of worthy projects we can share with you if you are a potential funder.**

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**Rabii Hillel—who lived about 2000 years ago—said:**

**“If I am not for myself, who will be for me?**

**If I am not for others, what am I?**

**And if not now, when?”**

**Thank you for being with us today and God Bless.**

Camilla Rees