



Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



October 2012

Tom Curtin

Administrative Office

South Dublin County Council

Roads Department

County Hall, Tallaght

Dublin 24

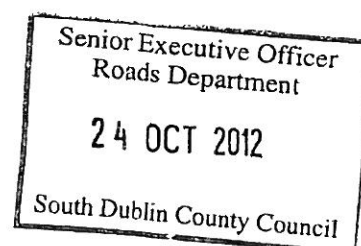
Dear Tom,

The development of national electricity infrastructure is primarily a matter for the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources. As such this Department's response is limited to the issues raised regarding potential health effects of electric and magnetic fields (EMF). This Department does not carry out testing of electromagnetic fields.

The issue of the potential health effects of electromagnetic fields masts was the subject of an Expert Group Report commissioned by the Government and published in March 2007. This Report, entitled Health Effects of Electromagnetic Fields, which considered issues such as digital signals, microwaves and mobile phone masts and power lines, is available for download on the DECLG's website (www.envron.ie). The Expert Group reported that the majority scientific opinion was that no adverse short or long term effects have been demonstrated from exposure to electromagnetic fields at levels below the limits recommended by the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). However, extensive international research on the issue continues to be coordinated through bodies such as the World Health Organisation.

This Department has previously been advised by the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources that all overhead electricity lines and underground electricity cables developed and operated by EirGrid and the ESB fully comply with the most up-to-date recommendations of ICNIRP in respect of exposure to electric and magnetic fields.

Yours sincerely,



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