

The Toxicity of Southwest Gas Itron Transmitting Utility Meters
by Steven Magee CEng MIET BEng Hons

These are excerpts from the third edition of the book Toxic Health, available from amazon.com

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Page 188:

The most biologically harmful fields appear to be produced by pulsed radiation devices that broadcast regularly. Smart/AMR/AMI utility meters and wireless outdoor temperature sensors are good examples. "Smart" enabled devices that are designed to integrate into your utility "Smart" meter are likely to behave in a similar fashion. Some WiFi devices and smart phones also display this behavior and it may be related to the applications that they have installed on them. Automatic door opening RADAR sensors that are common in large stores may fall into this category. Security door and active animal tracking radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags are in this category.

Pages 189 to 190:

The gas company later installed an Itron 100G gas meter that surpassed the biological toxicity of that device to the human. Installed 76 feet away from my bedroom, that device induced classic Radio Wave Sickness into me! It is listed as operating at between 908 to 924 megahertz at up to half a watt of transmission power. Half a watt is high powered for a residential application that constantly transmits pulsed radiation every several seconds. It is unfortunate that the highest powered transmitting devices at your home may actually be the utility meters that you cannot switch off!

The Itron Centron, 40G and 100G utility meters become really biologically toxic when the utility meter reading car comes through the neighborhood. It has a high powered transmitter on it that triggers all of the Itron utility meters in the area to transmit. This is by far the most biologically toxic human radio frequency exposure that I have come across in three years of radio frequency biological research. It is orders of magnitude more toxic than anything I have experienced during my research. You should avoid being outdoors in the sidewalk on the day that your transmitting utility meters are being read by the utility company meter reading car. It is actually preferable to go into the countryside on this day to avoid the spike in radiation levels. Many people will show adverse health conditions to this exposure that may last up to a week and the long term damage is currently unknown. The utilities willfully irradiating pregnant ladies, babies and developing children in their own residential sidewalks with known biologically toxic radiation probably will go down in history as one of their greatest crimes against humanity. I would recommend that you get familiar with the following: Smart Meter Opposition Groups in the United States of America <http://www.takebackyourpower.net/directory/us/>

Page 193:

Regarding the toxicity of wireless radiation exposures, this is the official stance currently: Lyon, France, May 31, 2011: The WHO/International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has classified radio frequency electromagnetic fields as possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B), based on an increased risk for glioma, a malignant type of brain cancer, associated with wireless phone use.

Pages 196 to 198:

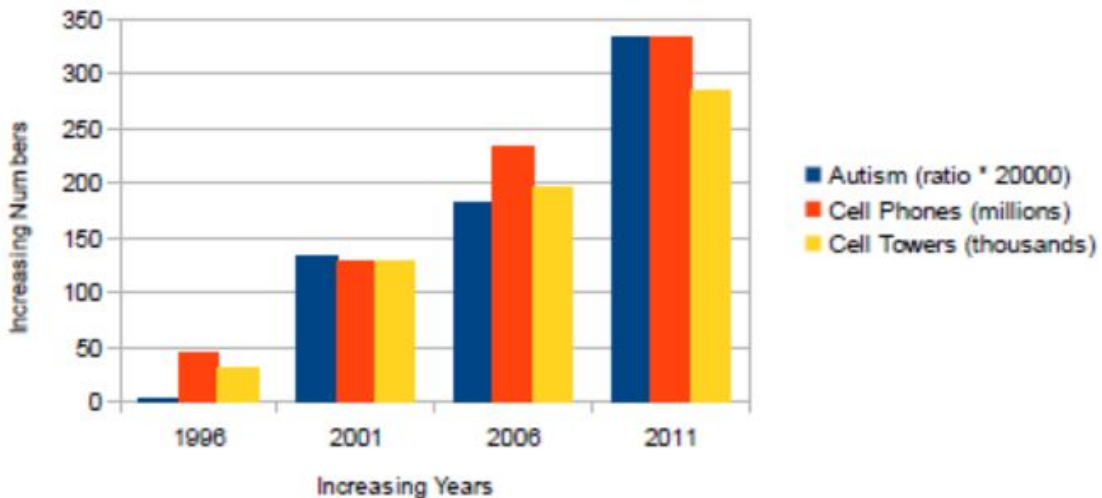
The alien human is revealing itself in many ways. We can see it in the dramatic rise in childhood development problems. Autism, attention deficit disorder, hyperactivity, insomnia, depression, fatigue, aggression and accelerated puberty are all problems that are prevalent in modern children. Autism is the most striking and has accelerated from being a rare problem in the 1970's where only 1 in 10,000 children were diagnosed with the condition to a common development issue where 1 in 40 boys have it today!

Autism has been following the rise in wireless communications for the last decade and this is shown in the next graph. The graph was compiled from data presented by CTIA-The Wireless Association and Talk About Curing Autism (TACA). It is clearly an electromagnetic radiation disease. The longer the damaging effects of man-made electromagnetic radiation are denied, the more this graph will continue to increase. Unfortunately, the wireless radiation era is not a good time to be born into.

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Year	Autism (ratio * 20000)	Cell Phones (millions)	Cell Towers (thousands)
1996	2	44	30
2001	133.4	128	128
2006	181.8	233	196
2011	333.2	332	283

Autism and Wireless Communications



The BioInitiative 2012 report states:

The premise of this review is that although scant attention has been paid to possible links between electromagnetic fields and radiofrequency exposures (EMF/RFR) and Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs), such links probably exist. The rationale for this premise is that the physiological impacts of EMF/RFR and a host of increasingly well-documented pathophysiological phenomena in ASDs have remarkable similarities.

Pages 273 to 274:

The human environment is no longer natural and this increasing of the man-made radiation environment should be expected to rapidly accelerate human evolution into an electromagnetically hardened animal. Unfortunately, many humans will die after many years of easily preventable illness and disease during this period that we are currently in.

The precursor to illness and disease are strange health conditions showing up. Radio Wave Sickness is well categorized today and the top reported radio wave sickness symptoms in order of frequency are:

1. *Fatigue.*
2. *Sleep disturbance.*
3. *Headaches.*
4. *Feeling of discomfort.*
5. *Difficulty in concentrating.*
6. *Depression.*
7. *Memory loss.*
8. *Visual disruptions.*
9. *Irritability.*
10. *Hearing disruptions.*
11. *Skin problems.*
12. *Cardiovascular.*
13. *Dizziness.*
14. *Loss of appetite.*
15. *Movement difficulties*
16. *Nausea.*

Source: Symptoms experienced by people in the vicinity of a cellular phone base station, Santini 2001, La Presse Medical.

Indeed, it is well known today that the sickness rates increase within approximately a quarter of a mile of a cell phone tower. The closer you are to it, the more likely it is for you to be sick. The utilities installing Smart/AMR/AMI meters at your home and in your neighborhood is comparable to turning your home into an antenna park.

Page 213:

Radio Wave Sickness is commonly referred to today as Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity and how high is too high for wireless radiation exposures? People with Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity commonly report the following: 6 to 3 V/m: Too high for ambient levels. 1 to 0.3 V/m: Too high for many people. 0.1 to 0.05 V/m: Many people have symptoms. 0.02 to 0.01 V/m: Most people with EHS are okay. (Source: EMFields Acousticom 2). The Tenmars TM-196 RF meter manual states "We recommend a maximum level of 0.614 V/m for prolonged exposure". It is normal to find yourself sitting and walking around in fields of wireless radiation of approximately 1 V/m in the USA. Antenna systems are commonly unseen inside buildings and various products that professional testing can reveal their presence. Invisible transmitters are called "Stealth" systems in the industry.

Page 275:

In 1932, the German doctor Erwin Schliephake appears to be the first person to document the

condition of Radio Wave Sickness. He noticed that the onset of symptoms were dependent upon the frequency and one particular frequency would bring on symptoms immediately, while a different frequency would take many hours of exposure to bring on the same conditions in a person. The onset followed this progression:

- 1. Initial reaction was extensive fatigue that would lead to apathy.*
- 2. Long exposures would bring on classic Neurasthenia symptoms.*
- 3. Prolonged exposure created a dull pressure in the head, headaches that would become intolerable, depression, inferiority, complaining, arguing, and uncertainty in dealing with others.*

Dr. Erwin Schliephake found that the symptoms would resolve shortly after removal of the radio transmitter. In general, he found that low powered radio frequency (RF) would cause tranquilizing effects and high powered RF created irritation. The sensitivity was person dependent.

Pages 304 to 305:

I also discovered that the gas company installed an automatic meter reader (AMR) radiation transmitting device at my property during this time. I do not know exactly when it was installed, but I asked around and it appears that it was installed sometime in January 2013. It was the reason why my health took a step back. The gas company installed them throughout the community, as I could see the same shiny AMR meters at other properties in the neighborhood. I tested it and it was emitting a radiation pulse every several seconds. The previous gas meter had no detectable radiation pulses coming from it. I am now watching my plants in that area to see if they are going to deform, go dormant, or die.

To reduce the toxic effects of this, I have now moved my desk as far away from the AMR gas meters that I can in the home. It is simply the prudent thing to do. The World Health Organization class wireless transmitting devices as "Possibly Carcinogenic". There are no shortage of people who have traced their health problems to these devices and one can only wonder why they have not been banned. Moving further away from the AMR transmitters increased my energy levels which tells me that they are affecting my health. The symptoms that I have observed are:

- January: Fatigue.*
- February: Fatigue, waking up feeling hung over and lethargic.*
- March: Fatigue, waking up feeling hung over and lethargic, fuzzy thinking and concentration problems.*
- April: I abandoned my bed and started to sleep on the floor. I also increased the electromagnetic screening around the transmitting AMR meters. This reduced the severity of the symptoms.*

I notified both the gas company and the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) that they were causing harmful biological interference at my property and to remove the AMR transmitting devices from the vicinity of my home.

Pages 308 to 309:

The gas company did eventually remove the biologically harmful AMR meter from my home. However, they refused to remove the one on the neighbors home just 15 feet away! I had actually

requested that they remove four of their transmitting meters from within 100 feet of my bedrooms, but only the one on my home was changed for a non-transmitting meter. The gas company knows that these transmitting meters make me sick, but are okay with that state of affairs. It is clearly a case of willful biological assault with known biologically harmful radio frequency devices that the military weaponized as they were so good at making the enemy sick! And it is happening at my home which represents my greatest financial investment! My home is not a place of safe refuge and this is a violation of the USA Declaration of Independence.

Heart arrhythmia and insomnia eventually showed up when I was sleeping on the floor. It was likely a combination of extended exposure to the transmitting utility meters in the area and the summertime stray voltage levels increasing on the concrete floor that I was sleeping on. This required a change in direction to seek good health.

Pages 311 to 314:

Regarding the transmitting gas meters, I saw South West Gas take the manual meter reading at my home in December 2013 while I was out walking with my partner and our baby. A car stopped at our home and two men got out and went into the meter area. They came out and drove off. They were stopped for about two minutes. The car had a large antenna system on the roof which I suspect is how they are currently obtaining the electronic meter readings. My community has both the old (Itron 40G) and the new style (Itron 100G) AMR/AMI gas meters. The old style appears to need to receive a signal from the car to start broadcasting, while the new type broadcasts pulsed radiation continuously. The car drove past us and we were about fifteen feet from the antenna system on its roof. I monitored our health after the AMR/AMI gas meter mobile transceiver car came through our area at lunchtime and I observed the following:

Day 1

- Skull pains that were off and on for a few hours.*
- Headache appeared by 15:00 and lasted for a few hours before subsiding on its own.*
- Extreme fatigue showed up at 17:00 and lasted a couple of hours. I was falling asleep while trying to have a conversation with a guest.*

Day 2

- Woke up extremely thirsty.*
- Headache developed during the morning that lasted all day.*
- I became nauseous between 15:00 to 18:00.*
- Intestinal pains in the evening.*
- Thought patterns were off with some confusion and forgetfulness.*
- Had to go to bed early due to an intolerable headache.*
- Insomnia through the night.*
- My three month old baby woke up two hours earlier than normal, was fussy, restless and refused to sleep more than half an hour at a time. Her behaviors were distinctly different from her usual routine of sleeping for a couple of hours between feeds.*
- Baby spitting up far more than usual.*

Day 3

- My partner had to look after the baby as I had become so sick.*
- Got out of bed at 12:00 with a severe headache that lasted all day.*
- Hearing in both ears was showing issues that lasted all day. The sensitivity kept on changing.*
- Baby woke up 2 hours earlier than normal.*
- Baby spitting up far more than usual.*

Day 4

- Headache all day long.
- Baby woke up 2 hours earlier than normal.
- Baby spitting up far more than usual.

Day 5

- Skull pains came back and were infrequent during the day.
- My partner was showing the Neurasthenia symptom of irritability.
- Baby woke up 2 hours earlier than normal.
- Baby screamed in pain for two hours and was inconsolable.

Day 6, 7 and 8

- Skull pains came back and were infrequent during the day.

The above appeared to be the biological reaction to the spike in radiation levels that occurred as all of the AMR transmitting meters in the area started to broadcast their radiation and to the gas company car radio frequency transmitter. I am wondering what radiation is being broadcast from that meter reading car to see such a severe set of reactions. I have not seen such a diverse and severe sickness for quite some time, so it was an unusual event for me. It may not have occurred had I been sitting inside the home as opposed to outside walking with the baby where the man-made radiation levels are much higher. I would suggest that if you see the utility meter reading car in your area, that you should probably go indoors for the rest of the day in order to protect your health.

I am sure that you would agree that these are concerning effects from the simple action of having gas meters read by the gas company! My partner had the same exposures and showed much milder effects as she is about three times less sensitive to radiation exposures than I am. She does not have any metal dental bridges that act as an antenna system that I have. I am very concerned that my three month old daughter had this exposure to her ovaries and this may have an impact on her fertility later in life. We will find out in about four decades from now what her lasting effects are to this exposure. This was clearly a case of electronic assault by the gas utility company on my family.

The Tucson utilities Itron AMR/AMI radiation transmitting metering system is by far the most toxic transmitting system that I have come across in three years of biological radio frequency research. It is orders of magnitude more toxic than anything else that I have encountered. I have walked right up to the forest of high powered transmitters in the antenna park on Sandia Peak in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and have not seen reactions anything like this. The radiation levels are so high next to that antenna park that there are posted warnings in the car park! It is likely that many people are adversely reacting to the utility transmitting meter reading car and have not yet associated their sickness that occurs to the biologically harmful exposure. They are likely getting approximately a week of sickness every time it passes through their neighborhood.

Page 315:

- Neighbors wireless radiation emissions including their transmitting utility meters. (Gas utility, Arizona Corporation Commission and the Federal Communications Commission refuses to remove the neighbor's Itron 100G AMR gas meter that is just 15 feet from my home, even though I have a doctors letter stating that I should not be exposed to these radiation emissions).
- The radio frequency radiation environment of Tucson, Arizona, is heavily overloaded by many forms of wireless communication systems. The town appears to have radio frequency levels that averages around 1,000 mV/m and peaks to over 2,000 mV/m at homes and businesses that I have measured. (The Tenmars TM-196 RF meter states "We recommend a maximum level of 614 mV/m for prolonged exposure")

Page 329 to 331:

For more information:

Bioinitiative Report is a rationale for biologically-based public exposure standards for electromagnetic fields (ELF and RF): <http://www.bioinitiative.org/>

Dr. Magda Havas, PhD, co-author of “Public Health SOS: The Shadow Side of the Wireless Revolution”: <http://www.magdahavas.com/>

*Dr. Samuel Milham, author of “Dirty Electricity”:
<http://www.sammilham.com/>*

ElectroSensitivity UK is a website that aims to provide unbiased and balanced information to help those who have become sensitive to mobile and cordless phones, their masts, WiFi, and a multitude of common everyday electrical appliances: <http://www.es-uk.info/>

Environmental Health Center-Dallas, Texas, medically tests and treats human health problems including sensitivities to pollens, molds, dust, foods, chemicals, air (indoor/outdoor), water, electromagnetic sensitivity (EMF), and many more health problems as they relate to our environment: <http://www.ehcd.com/>

*Environmental Radiation LLC offers the services to identify the modern invisible toxins that we are routinely exposed to and the know-how to rectify the problems.
<http://www.environmentalradiation.com/>*

FEB - The Swedish Association for the ElectroHyperSensitive: <http://www.feb.se/>

Guidelines of the Austrian Medical Association for the diagnosis and treatment of EMF related health problems and illnesses (EMF syndrome): <http://freiburger-appell-2012.info/media/EMF%20Guideline%20OAK-AG%20%202012%2003%2003.pdf>

*Less EMF are a leading supplier in the USA of electromagnetic radiation products:
<http://www.lessemf.com/>*

*Mast-Victims.org - An international community website for people suffering adverse health effects from mobile phone masts in the vicinity of their homes
<http://www.mast-victims.org/>*

*Medical Perspective on Environmental Sensitivities - Canadian Human Rights Commission:
http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/sites/default/files/envsensitivity_en.pdf*

Powerwatch UK: <http://www.powerwatch.org.uk/>

*Smart Meter Opposition Groups in the United States of America:
<http://www.takebackyourpower.net/directory/us/>*

WEPP - The Canadian initiative to stop wireless, electric, and electromagnetic pollution:

<http://www.weepinitiative.org/>

World Health Organization (WHO) International Workshop on Electromagnetic Field Hypersensitivity:
http://www.who.int/peh-emf/publications/reports/EHS_Proceedings_June2006.pdf

Pages 339 to 340:

Books that cover this subject by Steven Magee CEng MIET BEng Hons are:

- **Toxic Health:** *Toxic Health takes a look at the pollution that may be in your local environment and relates it to the health problems that it can cause. Pollution in the human environment is only just starting to be understood and something as innocent as light may be able to make you really ill! There are many examples of commonplace items in your environment that may have the ability to affect your health. In particular, we will investigate if modern city life is the most toxic thing of all to the modern human!*
- **Toxic Electricity:** *Random aches and pains? Fatigue? Insomnia? Facial pains? Irregular heartbeats? Sick kids? Relationship problems? Blotchy skin? Anxiety? Toxic electricity takes a look at the electrical system and asks the question: Is this one of the most toxic endeavors that humanity has ever engaged in?*
- **Electrical Forensics:** *Electrical Forensics examines the many aspects of electricity, electronics and wireless communications that may lead to unusual behaviors to occur in humans. Electromagnetic interference is well known for its ability to affect mental functioning and human health. Electrical Forensics demonstrates how to identify toxic electromagnetic environments that may be the root cause of accidents and crimes.*
- **Health Forensics:** *Health Forensics examines the many aspects of modern society that may lead to unusual behaviors to occur in humans. Modern society has adopted habits that are well known for their ability to affect mental functioning and human health. Health Forensics demonstrates how to identify toxic human environments that may be the root cause of accidents and crimes.*

[Electrical Forensics – The Link Between EMF Exposures And Unusual Behaviors: Book Review by Lloyd Burrell.](#)