

Dangers of Cellphone Technology Discussed

Lynn Hitchcock | Amanzimtoti 06:00 05/08/2015

TOTI Conservancy will be hosting a public meeting to raise awareness around the dangers of cellular phone technology and its adverse effects on the health of people and the environment. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, 12 August at 6pm in the library activities hall and the public is invited to attend.

“South Africans are woefully ignorant about the dangers inherent in cellular phone technology. Within the last 30 years, electromagnetic radiation of the environment has been changed by many millions of times, in comparison to the natural state of the environment. There is simply no way the environment can cope with change as massive as that,” TOTI Conservancy chairperson, Laura Taylor said.

Taylor said that South Africa has no legislation regarding cellular phone technology and there is currently a government drive to roll-out Wi-Fi technology to schools. This decision comes at a time when Wi-Fi has been banned in schools in Germany, Switzerland, Austria and France owing to the health consequences of this technology, to especially young people.

Many countries also no longer allow the erection of cellular phone masts near institutions such as schools and hospitals.

Taylor became involved in the issue when she inadvertently moved into a house next to a cell phone tower in 2009. Over the next one and half years, her health and the health of her family deteriorated. When she finally connected the dots and began researching the issue, she made contact with Tracey-Lee Dorney, Johannesburg resident and the founder of the Electro Magnetic Radiation Research Foundation of SA. Dorney took a cellular service provider to court for building a tower next to her house. Dorney reportedly started experiencing adverse effects on her health immediately following the activation of the tower,” Taylor said.

Some of the effects Dorney experienced included pounding headaches and internal bleeding.

“Following court cases the tower was taken down and re-erected four times. Dorney became cellular service provider’s top public enemy, but finally retreated due to her ill health and being kept tied up in endless court cases,” Taylor said.

The cellular industry is the richest industry in the world and for the first quarter of this year Apple announced the biggest profit ever made by a company globally, mostly from the sale of iPhones in China, she said.

Research reveals that 100% of people are affected by cellular technology, but some people, like Dorney, are “electro hypersensitive” and experience severe health effects. Children are, however, most at risk.