



Vermonters ^{for} a Clean Environment

Testimony of John Brabant, Regulatory Affairs Director, Vermonters for a Clean Environment
Senate Finance Committee – H. 513
April 26, 2019

- Introduction, background and work history; CV Fiber.
- VCE supports the intent of H. 513.
- H. 513 was intended to assist in the deployment of fiber optic cable to rural areas of Vermont
- Iishana Artra presentation – please spend time reviewing her presentation and reference documents.

- 5G technology involves high frequency, microwave energy deployed close to the ground level where people live and play. This energy type readily penetrates homes, that is the whole idea.
- No way to opt-out;
- Organic food – chemical industry claims – consumer opt-out
- Plastic industry claims – recycling scam - repercussions now 65 years later – microplastics everywhere, only 9% recycled in 2017, ocean gyre (garbage patch) off Midway Island filled with plastic.
- So many examples of moving forward with little to no information AND WORSE, where we have scientific information, ignoring that information at the behest of industry
- Small cell (frequency, energy level, placement) health implications. Studies around the globe conclude that radio frequency energy such as 5G causes cancers, such as glioblastoma.
- CTIA represents the U.S wireless communications industry
- FCC Chair and former Sr. lobbyist for CTIA, Tom Wheeler makes no claims that the technology is safe, rather states that they will move forward regardless: (start: 0:0 -)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22QlpjXR6DY>
- If this bill is passed as written, this approach and behavior is what the Vermont General Assembly is endorsing.

- The current FCC Chair Agit Pai, former Verizon Associate General Counsel – appointed by Pres. Obama at the behest of Senator Mitch McConnell (0:0 – 3:20) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R05kloB0VY>

- Senator Blumenthal – US Senate Hearing on 5G technology – February 6, 2019 (at 0:25 and 2:37): <http://scientists4wiredtech.com/2019/02/5g-emr-health-effects-discussed-in-the-public-record-at-us-senate-commerce-committee-hearing/>
- This legislature and at this late date, this committee is the ONLY check on the rollout of this dangerous technology, that at very least requires a beforehand evaluation of public health and safety implications of its ubiquitous deployment at near-ground levels.
- Vermont is a state that has certified to the FCC that it regulates pole attachments and is not governed by the FCC Declaratory Ruling regarding pole attachment of small cell technology.
[https://transition.fcc.gov/eb/Public Notices/DA-10-893A1.html](https://transition.fcc.gov/eb/Public%20Notices/DA-10-893A1.html)
- Request:
 - That H. 513 be amended as provided in the attached markup, making clear the intent of this bill is to assist in the deployment of optical fiber throughout Vermont and
 - As provided in the mark up, suggested language changes are indicated making clear that the “*one touch, make ready*” changes to the law under the bill are limited to the deployment of “*optical fiber and fiber to the premises*”
 - Under Section 19 which directs the PUC to embark on rulemaking, I provide language which makes clear that the rulemaking process is to be directed at the deployment of optical fiber and fiber to the premises.
 - With regard to 5G and 4G that can be upgraded to 5G, that the PUC commission a study to gather together and distill from the peer reviewed studies available related to health and safety risks posed by 5G RF radiation:
 - **(4) commission an independent study and report to assess peer reviewed, non- industry funded, public health and safety risk studies performed worldwide regarding 5G and other high level radio frequency radiation to be completed by January 15, 2020 and submitted to the Vermont General Assembly. No rule shall be developed for, or application for a certificate of public good accepted for review related to, 5G or 5G upgradable 4G infrastructure deployment prior to authorization by the General Assembly after due consideration and public hearings on the completed study and report’s findings**