

WORKSHOP ON THE IMPACTS OF NON-IONISING RADIATION ON WILDLIFE

Friday, March 17th, English Nature, Northminster House, Peterborough

Invitation:

English Nature are hosting a workshop on the impacts of non-ionising radiation on wildlife. The Centre for Ecology and Hydrology will be organising this workshop as we had previously been commissioned by English Nature to investigate this issue on their behalf (Cummins and Osborn, 2002).

We would like to invite a member from the your organisation to attend this workshop to provide an input into the national and European perspective on this subject.

Background:

The potential for damage to wildlife from non-ionising radiation (NIR) is of significant scientific and public concern. The use of mobile phones and the number of base stations has expanded significantly in recent years, and future developments in mobile phone technology (e.g. 3G) may alter the nature of electromagnetic emissions.

English Nature feels that this is an important issue which needs to be considered carefully. There are an increasing number of non-ionising radiation emissions, their nature is changing, and scientific uncertainties remain. There is also a high level of public concern on the issue of non-ionising radiation emissions, but much of the accessible information is hidden in peer-reviewed journals. For these reasons a workshop to review the current understanding and to highlight areas for future investigation is certainly long overdue.

Workshop Format:

The workshop will be held over one day and will include speakers from the scientific community and UK policy advisors. Small workshop groups will be able to contribute to discussions surrounding this issue. The workshop will be concluded with a forum on the way forward and potential targets for further research and awareness.

Booking:

To book a place at this workshop please email your name and organisational details to Bill Bealey at bib@ceh.ac.uk. There are no fees for this workshop and lunch will be provided.