

PRESS RELEASE

At the May 31st meeting of the South Merrick Community Civic Association (SMCCA) retired award winning engineer Neil Yeoman convincingly explained how the Town of Hempstead may have shot itself in the foot with the unreasonably restrictive regulations and policies with respect to the installation of wireless base station equipment it has recently adopted. Because of the rapidly growing demand for cell phone and related services the providers have been unable to meet the needs of their customers by adding required capacity. This not only creates the obvious problem of unreliable cell phone service which is a general nuisance and in emergencies could lead to tragedy, but it also increases the net overall radiation exposure to which the public will be subjected. This counterintuitive reality results from two things about which too much of the public is unaware. The greatest source of radiation exposure is the handsets, that is, the phones themselves, which typically create about a thousand times more radiation exposure than the base stations (antennas) with which they are connecting. When there is inadequate base station capacity, which is increasingly becoming the case, the phones put out more radiation to compensate. The war against cell antennas while reducing the trivial amount of radiation received from base stations is increasing the much more significant amount of radiation the users, and those around them, are receiving from their cell phones.

The audience, few of whom came to the SMCCA meeting knowing what they were going to learn, became increasingly involved in the discussion as they better understood the disturbing situation that the war against cell antennas has created, and by the end of the evening were seeking ways to have the rest of the public understand what they had just learned.

Neil Yeoman has a long history of serving the community (Merrick) in which he has lived for about half a century. He has been treasurer of SMCCA since 2006 and its webmaster since 2007. Other current activities include the Historical Society of the Merricks whose treasurer Neil has been since 1975 and the Solid Waste Advisory Committee of the Town of Hempstead on which he has actively served as a volunteer since 1988. Neil is a Fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers; a registered professional engineer in Kansas, Louisiana, New York, and Texas; and a listed inventor on 28 US patents. His 44 year career as a practicing engineer includes 11 years as a process manager in charge of the design of chemical process plants, 15 years as the research director of a chemical process equipment supply company (the largest of its kind in the world), and seven years as the vice president of an engineering and construction company.