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ATTN: OP-ED EDITOR

EXTREME EMF RADIATION LEVELS THREATEN CHILDREN

For Immediate Release

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Huntsville, Texas, known worldwide as “The City of Death” because of its reputation as the “Death Capital of the Free World” and thus a callous disregard for human life, is also known for the callous disregard by public school and university authorities for the health and welfare of its children and young adults.

Exposure to high levels of EMF’s (electromagnetic fields) is suspected to cause a statistically significant increase in childhood leukemia and other diseases, and consequently conservative child health and welfare activists have recommended a “prudent avoidance” level of as low as 0.2 milligauss.

In fact, concern was so great in Houston, Texas, that in 1985, parents brought a lawsuit against Houston Lighting and Power because of what they called a “callous disregard” for their children’s health for siting a high voltage line within 200 feet of a school and playground. The court ordered HL&P to not only relocate the line at great expense but to pay \$25 million dollars in punitive damages as well.

In Huntsville, however, the “callous disregard” comes in the form of an unconcerned administration at Sam Houston State University and an unconcerned Huntsville Independent School District, where children and young adults are exposed to constant EMF levels of up to 35 milligauss, which is 17,500% higher than the conservatively “prudent” safety level of 0.2 milligauss, and 875% higher than the scientifically proven cancer risk threshold of 4 milligauss.

HISD officials have even built a new playground directly underneath a 138 kv power line that runs through a school yard. Levels of up to 14 milligauss were detected next to the playground equipment. Because of the alignment of the school building itself, dangerous levels were detected adjacent to at least one classroom.

Sam Houston State University officials allowed the construction of a 138 kv power line as well as a distribution line within a few feet of rooms in a girl’s dormitory. Readings of between 30 and 35 milligauss were taken in one upstairs corner room at the window and between 15 and 18 milligauss at the far wall of the room.

University officials have been advised of the danger on numerous occasions, yet refuse to take action to limit dangerous EMF exposure levels or to at least advise students and their families of the high levels so that individual decisions could be made about whether to avoid the risk of living with constant high exposure or living elsewhere.

The university is in the process of completing a new \$15 million dollar dormitory that is adjacent to the same 138 kv power line and where EMF levels are certain to exceed prudently safe levels by thousands of percent.

Both the editor and publisher of the "Huntsville Item" refuse to cover the story citing that there is no firm scientific proof that EMF's at any level should be a matter of concern. Their argument is as specious as the argument that it has never been proven that smoking can lead to lung cancer.

A genuine journalist would at least examine both sides of the argument in an objective fashion so that citizens could make up their own minds about whether or not it is in the best interests of children to be exposed to levels of EMF's that indicate an increased risk of contracting leukemia as well as other serious life-threatening negative health consequences, including brain cancer, depression, suicide, breast cancer, and miscarriage.

The "Item", unfortunately, has an unspoken policy of being anti-public health, anti-environment, pro-death penalty, pro-war, and anti-objective reporting as reflected in the nature and bias of the stories and editorials that are consistently selected for publication.

It is recommended that parents, teachers, and concerned citizens investigate the EMF levels that they and their children are being exposed to, study the evidence as currently being investigated by scientists, and thus be able to make up their own minds based on their understanding of the issue and act accordingly.

Secretive exposure of children to potentially hazardous EMF levels should not be left up to the blatantly "callous disregard" of either school officials or newspaper publishers who refuse to even alert the public to the existence of high voltage power line exposure on school grounds and college campuses.

George H. Russell
American Patriot

George H. Russell, an outspoken opponent of the death penalty, is a resident of Huntsville, Texas, known worldwide as "The City of Death."

He is founder of The Patriot Network, and author of its 35+ web sites located at www.patriotnetwork.org, as well as founder of The Universal Ethician Church, an interfaith ministry with a worldwide following via the church's 275+ web sites located at www.salvationnetwork.org.

Russell, 59, is an educational video producer, environmental activist, historic preservation specialist, photographer, art and antique collector, philanthropist, American patriot and ethician.

Additional biographical information may be found in *Who's Who in America*, through Internet searches, and in other publications. Images of Mr. Russell suitable for downloading for publication may be found at www.salvationnetwork.org.