

News

# Electromagnetic Sensitivity Gains Observance Month

Electromagnetic sensitivity gained its first publicized observance month in the United States and Canada in 2009. Since then, it has gained ground.

Connecticut Governor Jodi Rell is the first in the United States this year to declare May 2010 as Electromagnetic Sensitivity Awareness Month.

“People of all ages in Connecticut and throughout the world have developed the illness of Electromagnetic Sensitivity (EMS) as

a result of global electromagnetic pollution,” says Rell on the proclamation.

In Canada, Don Coombs, Mayor of Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, is the first this year to proclaim January 2010 as Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity Awareness Month.

“This illness may be preventable through the reduction or avoidance of electromagnetic radiation in both indoor and outdoor environments and by further medical research,” says Coombs on his proclamation.

This is the fourth proclamation in Canada according to Christiane Tourtet in a recent news release. The first one was signed by David Saunders, Mayor of the City of Colwood, B.C. (August 2009). The second one was signed by Dennis O’Keefe, Mayor of St John’s in Newfoundland (August 2009). And the third one was signed by Mayor Fred Budgell of Norris Arms, Newfoundland (October 2009).



By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

## Official Statement

WHEREAS, people of all ages in Connecticut and throughout the world have developed the illness of Electromagnetic Sensitivity (EMS) as a result of global electromagnetic pollution; and

WHEREAS, Electromagnetic Sensitivity (EMS) is a painful chronic illness of hypersensitive reactions to electromagnetic radiations for which there is no known cure; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of EMS include dermal changes; acute numbness and tingling; dermatitis; flushing; headaches; arrhythmias; muscular weakness; tinnitus; malaise; gastric problems; nausea; visual disturbances; severe neurological, respiratory, and speech problems; and numerous other physiological symptoms; and

WHEREAS, Electromagnetic Sensitivity (EMS) is recognized by the Americans with Disabilities Act, the U.S. Access Board, and numerous commissions; and

WHEREAS, the health of the general population is at risk from electromagnetic exposures that can lead to this illness induced by electromagnetic radiations; and

WHEREAS, this illness may be preventable through the reduction or avoidance of electromagnetic radiations, in both indoor and outdoor environments and by conducting further scientific research; and

WHEREAS, people with EMS need the support of the medical establishment and understanding of family, friends, co-workers, and society as they struggle with their illness and have to adapt to new lifestyles; now

THEREFORE, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2010, as

**ELECTROMAGNETIC SENSITIVITY (EMS) AWARENESS MONTH**  
in the State of Connecticut.



*M. Jodi Rell*  
Governor

“People suffering from EHS have significantly higher natural rates of membrane leakage as measured by their skin conductance (Eltiti et al. 2007). Since their leakage rates are already high, even small amounts of electromagnetic radiation that would not affect non-sensitive individuals can trigger their symptoms. Not everyone gets exactly the same symptoms, but they include false feelings of heat, touch, pressure, crawling sensations, pins and needles and pain,” says Andrew Goldsworthy BSc PhD, a retired lecturer in biology at the Imperial College London. “The radiation can also affect the “hair cells of the inner ear, which work in much the same way. Leakage here can trigger false sensations of sound (tinnitus). There is a

similar effect on the hair cells of the part of the inner ear that controls balance. Leakage here gives feelings of dizziness and symptoms of motion sickness, including nausea.”

EMS may become a major problem for everyone in the world according to Goldsworthy. “Although only a few percent of the population are at present electrosensitive, the condition can be brought on in hitherto healthy people by repeated or prolonged exposure to the radiation. However, it sometimes takes many years to develop so, even if you are currently one of the lucky ones who are not affected, there is no guarantee that it will stay that way.”

These words of wisdom remind us why awareness of EMS and an observance month is so important!

