



Regeringskansliet

Ministry of the Environment

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Letter on limit values for electromagnetic fields

In a letter, which was submitted to the Government Offices on December 9, 2019, you have stated that the Government should instruct the Swedish Parliament to legislate on limit values for microwave radiation and other electromagnetic fields from wireless technology. The letter is addressed to Prime Minister Stefan Löfven. The matter has been delegated to the Minister of the Environment and Climate, and Deputy Prime Minister Isabella Lövin, Ministry of the Environment. Isabella Lövin has given me the task of answering your letter.

The Radiation Safety Authority is the managing authority for matters concerning the protection of human health and the environment against the harmful effects of ionizing and non-ionizing radiation. In this assignment, the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority is responsible for establishing basic limitations and reference values for protecting individuals of the public from all scientifically proved adverse health effects when exposed to electromagnetic fields. The Swedish Work Environment Authority is responsible for establishing limit values for occupational exposure to electromagnetic fields.

The competent authorities have already established reference and limit values, in the form of regulations and general advice, which regulate exposure to electromagnetic fields. Therefore, it is not relevant of the Government to take further initiatives to legislate on such values. The Government also notes that the relevant reference and limit values are based on international research and follow the directives and recommendations which the Member States have jointly agreed on within the European Union. The Radiation Safety Authority's overall assessment is also that there are no health risks with exposure from base stations for mobile telephony, wireless computer networks, and similar transmitters.

The Government has full confidence that the authorities are fulfilling their tasks in assessing the radiation protection-related risks with electromagnetic fields. Of course, if new scientific facts emerge in the future, it can cause the Government to take action.

Charlotta Fred
Departementsråd, Deputy Director-General