
NOTE: This information is an extract from an email provided by the Education department in response to queries raised by concerned persons associated with the Willunga Primary School. This information was considered by Willunga Recreation Park as part of their evaluations of the Tower proposal.

NOTE: The author's details have been removed to protect their privacy. If you would like to seek further information please contact us via our email address info@willungarecpark.com.au

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I provide the following comments, based on my experience in this area from a previous role within government which was with radio and telecommunications infrastructure, being:

- Under the Telecommunications Act 1997 (Cth) these types of 'low impact' facilities can be approved and built without public consultation or approval. Because of the specifications of the facility there is no choice or right of appeal by either the community or another (State) government agency including the Department for Education.
- I have tried to find a previous situation whereby a mobile phone tower was located 'close' to a school but are not aware of a precedent for this situation. Regardless there is no action that can be taken by the Department to change or stop this facility being built.
- These types of installations are very regulated and do conform with Australian Standards (whether we agree or accept those standards is another matter). From the EME report the maximum is 2.03% of public exposure limit being at a distance of 100-200m from the site, which would be if you were present outside at that location 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This calculation is also decreased if there are trees, vegetation or buildings in between the antennas (located at the top of the monopole) and people.
- The majority of the EME will be omitted straight out from the antennas at the top of the monopole at times of activity eg use of a mobile phone or internet service (ie not 100% of the time) – the estimated EME levels have been calculated based on the maximum mobile call and data capacity.
- As per the EME report, Willunga PS has been assessed as having a maximum EME level of 1.86%, which again does not take into account trees, vegetation or buildings which would decrease the level.
- Needs to be noted that low level EME is omitted by the use of everyday equipment such as computer screens, televisions, microwave ovens, mobile phones, ipads etc.

The Department understands that these types of facilities are a cause of concern for many in the community. Now that additional information and reports have been provided, from our viewpoint it appears the overall concerns have been addressed.

**Capital Projects and Technical Services
Department for Education**