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1. The Bio-Initiative group has issued a press release 12-3-09 summarising its findings.

http://www.bioinitiative.org/press_release/index.htm

2. A special edition of the journal Pathophysiology addresses risks from EMFs. Research professor and Editor Martin Blank says, *"This special issue of Pathophysiology is about the human body's sensitivity to EMF signals in the environment, e.g., EMF effects on DNA, effects on the brain from cell phone radiation, and how EMFs in the environment may lead to Alzheimer's disease, dementia and breast cancer. The scientific evidence tells us that our safety standards are inadequate, and that we must protect ourselves from exposure to EMF due to power lines, cell phones and the like."* The special edition includes 15 chapters by many of the authors of the Bio-Initiative Report 2007, and some others, and seems something like an update of that Report.

<http://www.elsevier.com/locate/pathophys>

3. Scottish Ramblers call on the Scottish government to reject the Beaully-Denny 400kV proposal across the Highlands, referring to alternatives under the sea. A decision is expected "later this year".

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/low/uk_news/scotland/tayside_and_central/7953275.stm

4. Scottish group Pylon Pressure say: "Over a year since the end of the eleven month public inquiry into the proposed Beaully to Denny 400kv transmission line, the inquiry report - all six volumes, we are told, have been delivered to Scottish Ministers. The Energy Minister, Jim Mather, will deliver his decision in due course."

<http://www.pylonpressure.com/>

5 The national co-ordinating group Scotland Before Pylons has a March 2009 Briefing Note at

http://www.pylonpressure.com/UserFiles/File/Final_SBP_Briefing_Note_3.3.09.pdf

6. The French EMF Survey (news266, 253, 251, 216 etc.) has been published in French for over a month. Steve Nuttall has produced an English translation at

http://www.stop-tht.org/IMG/pdf/090219_living_with_a_very_high_voltage_power_line.pdf

7. The French survey includes direct measurements as well as questionnaire responses. The results have been statistically validated at a university and all the results presented are statistically significant. Steve Nuttall writes "The reaction to our

document, which has been out and about in French for a month and a bit, has been one of interested concern from the politicians and very muted from the industry. They have simply attacked it as being not an epidemiological study, a claim we never made and indeed were clear was not our aim. So it seems the statistical validation has muted much of the predictable reaction.”

8. The French survey report is easy to read and very interesting. It includes a survey of agricultural impacts including impairment of milk production close to powerlines. That coincides with the interest (news270) in research on magnetic alignment of cows being influenced by powerlines, published in the prestigious Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS). The impact on people includes electrical interference and self-reported common symptoms.

9. The Rudiger-Lerchl controversy (news258.7, 260.6) about results showing genotoxicity of EMFs seemed to be left in mid air. We are now informed that there was a detailed investigation initiated by the Rektor of the Medical University of Vienna concerning the alleged scientific fraud, which did not reveal any misconduct, and therefore there was no need to withdraw the publications. Neither of the publications was actually withdrawn nor is expected to be. Therefore the case is no longer in a “limbo of suspicion” (news264.3). Some may have doubts about some of the results, but the limbo is over and the publications remain.

10. Since the Rudiger-Lerchl controversy was publicised, some authors had wrongly cited the dispute as if it indicated that there were no reliable results of DNA breaks from cell-phone EMFs (news265.2/3). Now in March 2009 Professor Rüdiger has published a review in Pathophysiology (see item 2 above) of 101 research papers on various types of genotoxicity from EMFs. About half the papers showed positive (usually statistically significant) effects. Prof Rüdiger discusses sound reasons for variation of findings between sometimes radically different studies, so half the studies being inconclusive does not seriously detract from the evidence for genotoxicity.

11. The Radiation Research Trust has just published its March 2009 newsletter. Among other things it calls for urgent support and lobbying MEPs on the EU Parliamentary report on EMFs (the Ries report).

<http://www.radiationresearch.org/>