

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 1185**  
**Asked on 3 August 2011**

MR WELLINGTON asked the Minister for Health (MR WILSON)-

QUESTION:

With reference to the proposed construction of an Optus mobile phone tower in a residential area at Highworth in the Nicklin Electorate -

Does the Minister have any concerns about possible health implications from the level of radiation emitted from the proposed towers on people living in close proximity to the tower?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Nicklin for his question.

I am advised that the Australian Communication and Media Authority licences mobile telephone service providers, such as Optus, to operate radio communication transmitters. I am further advised that a condition placed on these licensees is that they comply with the Radiation Protection Standard for Maximum Exposure Levels to Radiofrequency Fields - 3 kilohertz to 300 gigahertz, published by the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency.

This Radiation Protection Standard sets maximum exposure limits for radiofrequency radiation to prevent adverse health effects. I am advised that, with regard to mobile phone base stations, the level of radiofrequency radiation to which the public would be exposed in their homes is no more than a small fraction of the exposure limits.

As Queensland Health does not have any public health role in relation to the approval of the transmitter that the Member refers to, further enquiries should be directed to the Australian Communication and Media Authority.