Sweden

Report on EMF Activities 20th International Advisory Committee on EMF May 2015

The Independent Expert Group on Electromagnetic Fields of the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority (SSM) has published a new review report. The report (not yet assigned a report number) is in English and will be available for download from www.ssm.se by mid-May 2015.

The main activity at the Swedish Work Environment Authority (SWEA) is ongoing implementation of the EU-directive 2013/35/EU into national law. This directive must be implemented into national law no later than 1 of July 2016. This process involves i.e. discussions with employers and employees and impact assessment. SWEA has given seminars on the requirements in the directive and the risk assessment related to exposure. There is a general concern among the employers on how to assess the electromagnetic fields i.e. measure and calculate exposure in complex exposure situations as there is a considerable lack of competent persons in Sweden who can assess complex exposure.

The concern over long-term effects related to exposure well below the Council Recommendation of 1998 is still an issue. The focus is on exposure of children to WiFi in schools and exposure in workplaces.

The new technique of inductive charging is a growing source of concern. SSM has measured magnetic fields from inductive chargers for electrical vehicles and the results are under evaluation. A large Swedish furniture company has recently begun marketing furniture with built-in inductive chargers for smartphones and other personal devices.