EIA activity 1

Question 13:

13.What are the direct effects of EMF exposure on the human reproductive outcome (100 kHz – 300 GHz)? Are the studies conclusive? (G6 – G41 – G27 – G14)

**Studies on reproductive outcomes for women show different results**

1. **There are two extensive studies on women treated with microwave diathermy during labor to relieve the pain of uterine contractions and no evidence was found for harmful effects on the fetus.**
2. **seven studies on pregnancy outcomes among workers occupationally exposed to microwave radiation and on birth defects among their offspring produced both positive and negative results.**
3. **In some of the larger epidemiological studies of female plastic welders and physiotherapists working with shortwave diathermy devices, there were no statistically significant effects on rates of abortion or fetal malformation.**
4. **other studies on similar populations of female workers found an increased risk of miscarriage and birth defects.**
5. **A study shows that there is no association between microwave exposure and the risk of Down’s syndrome in the offspring of male radar workers.**

**From the studies shown above we can conclude that these studies are not conclusive about the risks of microwave exposure.** **Despite the generally negative results of these studies, it will be difficult to draw firm conclusions on reproductive risk without further epidemiological data on highly exposed individuals and more precise exposure assessment.**

Reference

ICNIRP\_Guide RF, page 12

22. What are the SAR limits as basic restrictions according to Canada Safety Code 6? (G15 – G6 – G12)