UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP 16 2002

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

Ms. Jo-Anne R. Basile
Vice President
External and Industry Relations
Cellular Telecommunications
and Internet Association
1250 Connecticut Ave., NW Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Ms. Basile:

Thank you for your letter of September 6, 2002, requesting clarification of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) current position regarding the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) radiofrequency (RF) radiation exposure guidelines.

EPA has not changed its position regarding the FCC guidelines, which are designed to protect the public from the thermal effects of radio frequency energy. This position, stated in an April 30, 1999, letter from then Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator Robert Brenner to the FCC, remains EPA's policy. There is, however, continued scientific uncertainty regarding the existence of possible non-thermal effects, such as those due to chronic exposure, and EPA supports the ongoing efforts of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the Food and Drug Administration to pursue additional research into these postulated effects. Until such time as the results of this research are available, it remains EPA's view that the FCC exposure guidelines adequately protect the public from all scientifically established harms that may result from RF energy fields generated by FCC licensees, and EPA will continue to work closely with the FCC and other federal agencies to review new scientific information.

I hope this letter clarifies EPA's position on this matter. Please contact Ms.Bonnie Gitlin at (202) 564-9371, if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Frank Marcinowski, Director
Radiation Protection Division