DeMorgen



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Onkelinx will follow recommendations on phone masts

(Belgium) The office of the Minister of Public Health Laurette Onkelinx said on Friday that she will support the recommendations of the High Council for Health regarding mobile phone masts. This means that for these masts a standard of 3 volts of radiation per metre will be imposed.

Twice in the last couple of years an appeal has been brought before the Constitutional Court against the recommendation to reduce the permitted limit from 20.6 V/m to 3V/m. The decision of the court in favour of it has remained a dead letter until today.

"A new recommendation of the High Council for Health concerning phone masts is in preparation and the Minister will require its implementation", the Ministry declared.

A meeting with the operating companies is planned for the end of October in order to put this new regulation into effect. However the majority of phone masts are already functioning in accordance with the norm: 80 per cent of the 900MHz antennae in Belgium already operate below the threshold of 3 V/m so the effect of the new measure will be limited. (belga/TDB)



Laurette Onkelinx Minister of Health

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