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1. A new IMechE report "Climate Change: Adapting to the inevitable" is published February 2009. "Adaptation" is jargon for preparing to live with change, as distinct from efforts on "mitigation" which "will take centuries". The report says that treaties, such as the Kyoto Protocol, which aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, are useless (BBC). The IMechE calls for radical infrastructure change, including locating power stations away from coastal areas, and for long-term (100-200 year) planning. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/em/-/1/hi/uk/7888994.stm>

The full report can be accessed via <http://www.imeche.org/media/press/>

2. An extract from the Executive Summary of the IMechE report: "Regarding the distribution of energy, a fundamental move towards the greater decentralisation of energy production, via intelligent local networks, will be required. This would be coupled with a more internationally interconnected electricity grid to balance supply and demand differences (ie a European 'supranational' grid). This will, however, require international harmonisation of systems, standards, regulations, taxes and market economics."

3. All the papers from the European Commission Workshop on EMF and Health: Science and Policy to address public concerns, Brussels, 11-12 February 2009, are available at the website http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_risk/ev_20090211_en.htm

4. In his presentation to the EC Workshop 11-12 Feb, Paulo Vecchia (Chairman of ICNIRP) announced new guidelines expected in 2009:
Static Fields: revised guidelines May 2009;
ELF fields: draft guidelines expected 2009;
RF fields: Blue Book and Statement of Validity of Guidelines expected 2009.

5. The potential of local electricity distribution (as distinct from transmission) systems to cause worryingly high EMF is illustrated by a case reported from Somerset. A local substation has an incoming 11kV line on double wood-poles, outgoing local lower voltage overhead open 4 wire lines and an underground cable (UGC). One house about 15 metres from the substation transformer has the 400v lines 4 metres from one corner and the UGC some 5 metres from another corner. Daytime fields in the house are 0.3 – 0.7 microtesla, but at 00:05 they rise to 2.5 microtesla falling to about 1.2 microtesla by 04:00, presumed to reflect local use of night storage heaters. The high field pattern follows the 400v line down the road past other properties. The field in the house is not significantly affected by switching off power in the house and the field

does not vary much around the house. This might make a nice distribution case study for the revived SAGE process.

6. Further to the report (news267.2) of a legal ruling in Nanterre, upheld on appeal, against a telecoms mast on health grounds, a second such ruling has been made in France this month. The TGI (District Court) of Carpentras ordered the removal of a 25 metre mast, acknowledging a potential health risk.

<http://www.next-up.org/France/Vaucluse.php#1>

7. The Archer Report 23 Feb 2009 examines what Lord Winston described as the worst treatment disaster in the history of the UK's National Health Service. That was the mass infection (HIV, hepatitis, CJD etc.) of haemophiliacs by contaminated blood products. The Report is very critical of "Governmental and scientific agencies". There is also the scandal of "The Lost Documents" and DH failure to investigate fully and promptly as well as its refusal to give evidence to the Inquiry.

<http://www.archercbbp.com/report.php>

8. One form of "spin", now familiar in EMFs, from then Minister Ken Clarke, read "There is no conclusive evidence that (AIDS) is transmitted by blood products". The blood products disaster happened in this country which, in living memory, exposed its own soldiers to atomic radiation, and tested chemical weapons on others saying they were cures for the common cold. Whatever the intricacies of "explanations", the firmest conclusion based on evidence available to the public must be that government and its agencies cannot be trusted on matters of science and health, even now.