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1. Regular sunbed use before the age of 30 has been recognised by IARC as a class 1 carcinogen: a definite carcinogen as distinct from a probable (class 2A) or possible (class 2B) carcinogen, according to the BBC, although I could not find it on the websites of IARC or the journal Lancet Oncology where it is said to be announced. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/em/-/1/hi/uk/8172690.stm>

2. The BBC report says the UK government is considering proposals to ban sunbeds for under 18s, as already done in Scotland. Sunbed exposure differs from EMF from powerlines in that it is voluntary. Bans then face questions of choice and effectiveness such as with alcohol prohibition and smoking. For under 16s there is the added question of age of responsibility to make an informed choice. Ironically, Scottish law traditionally accepted 16 as such an age (Gretna Green and all that), whereas English law favoured 18.

3. It is good to report a satisfactory outcome from a difficult situation. The E.ON 132kV distribution line at Wolverhampton was allegedly in breach of normal safety clearances from house roofs and allegedly without a wayleave (news251, 252, 255, 257, 264, 266). The home owner most affected reports August 2009 that E.ON has finally agreed to buy the property at full market value (as without the powerline) and to pay removal costs. We like to give credit where it is due, though in this case it is limited by the allegedly unreasonable delays and resistance by E.ON in negotiation, allegedly described as “appalling” by a solicitor.

4. Another good outcome, credit for which goes to Alasdair Philips and Powerwatch. A report at <http://www.planningresource.co.uk/news/930974/> is guarded by login. Extracts: “Two appeals for schemes on the same south-west London site have been rejected on the basis of the potential harmful impact associated with an electricity substation.” “Both schemes involved repositioning an electricity substation. Two local residents highlighted that it would then be in close proximity to their daughter's bedroom. They argued that low-frequency electromagnetic fields (EMFs) could contribute towards childhood leukaemia. The fear of such effects was a material planning consideration, the inspector decided.”

5. The group SEAT in Northern Ireland is increasing activity to oppose the Northern Ireland part of the proposed 400kV Cavan-Tyrone Interconnector. The group has just benefited from the Mayor of Armagh's “Fundraiser” and has become a company limited by guarantee. There is to be a meeting at Benburb Presbyterian Hall at 8pm on Thursday 10th September. <http://www.seatactiongroup.com/>