CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-8

INTRODUCED BY:

A RESOLUTION

URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS, THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH MEMBERS TO REQUIRE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO REASSESS THE HEALTH IMPACTS OF RADIO FREQUENCY EMISSIONS; AND TO ACTIVELY SEEK AND SUPPORT FEDERAL LEGISLATION THAT WOULD GIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS GREATER FLEXIBILITY WITH REGARD TO THE PLACEMENT OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES.

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WHEREAS, 47 U.S.C. § 332(c)(7)(B) governs the siting of wireless communications facilities and grants limited local zoning authority with regard to wireless siting zoning considerations and prohibits local jurisdictions from regulating the placement, construction, and modification of such facilities on the basis of environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the regulations of the Federal Communications Commissions concerning such emissions; and

WHEREAS, there is an ongoing debate within the scientific community and among governing bodies throughout the world regarding how thoroughly the long-term health effects of

low-frequency electromagnetic and radio frequency emissions are understood including questions raised regarding how well the existing regulations established by the Federal Communications Commission protect more vulnerable populations such as school-aged children, and how well they protect against the cumulative effect of radio frequency emissions on people who live or work in close proximity to multiple cellular facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body desires to expressly communicate to the President and U.S. Congress and the Federal Communications Commission the urgent need to further study the effects of radio frequency emissions of wireless communications facilities and to preserve the local control over siting of these facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE that the Governing Body urges the U.S. Congress, the President and executive branch members to: (1) urge that the federal government engage in a comprehensive study of the effects of wireless facilities radio frequency emissions to assess the health impacts of these emissions; and (2) actively seek and support federal legislation that would give local governments greater flexibility to regulate the placement of wireless communications facilities given the unique aesthetic and safety issues that said facilities raise and to regulate such facilities in favor of less intrusive and more efficient technologies.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to President Obama, New Mexico's Congressional Delegation, the Federal Communications Commission members and the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 10th day of February, 2010.

DAVID COSS, MAYOR

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4	VOLANDA V.VIGIL, CITY CLERK
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6	APPROVED AS TO FORM:
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8	Tono
9	GENO ZAMORA, CITY ATTORNEY
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Jp/ca/jpmb/2010 res/telecommunications act