



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Open Letter to Elon Musk & SpaceX

Hawthorne, CA, February 20th, 2021

A team of health and environmental organizations from across North America have collaborated on an *Open Letter to Elon Musk & SpaceX* calling for the immediate cessation of SpaceX's Starlink satellite program. As SpaceX satellites will adversely impact countries around the world, the team is inviting environmental organizations and individuals, both nationally and internationally, to sign and share the [Open Letter](#).

SpaceX, headquartered in Hawthorne, CA, plans to provide wireless internet to every corner of the globe using 5G technology. To date, SpaceX has submitted applications to the FCC for 42,000 satellites, and as of February 2021 the company had over 1000 satellites orbiting in the earth's ionosphere. Public beta testing began last October.

While the promise of worldwide internet service, even to previously unserved locations, sounds like a technological panacea, when the curtain is pulled back, environmental dangers abound.

They include:

- radiofrequency radiation and disruption to the electromagnetic circuitry of the earth
- visible pollution of the night sky
- interference with astronomy and meteorology
- rocket exhaust contributing to ozone depletion and climate change
- ground and water pollution from intensive use of increasingly many spaceports
- space debris
- toxic dust and smoke from continual deorbiting of satellites
- collisions and risk of Kessler Syndrome

The letter asks, "Do we really want to build learning gardens at our schools, that will be pollinated with robotic bees? Do the oceans and Antarctica and all rainforests and wildlife preserves really need the Internet? Do the immutable stars in the unchanging heavens really need competition from ten thousand or more moving lights? We believe in something better. For us. For our children. For insects and for all of life."

Authors of the letter are urging environmental publications to publish the letter in its entirety as the urgency of its message speaks loudly to environmentalists around the planet. (A publishable version is available upon request.)

The Open Letter can be accessed at <https://stop5ginternational.org/open-letter-to-elon-musk-spacex/>.

Contact: David Goldberg, dgoldberg36@gmail.com

Phone, 970-635-2397