

**From:** Saffron, Jesse (NIH/NIEHS) [E] jesse.saffron@nih.gov  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Cell Phone Radiation Pilot Study Report Inquiry  
**Date:** August 26, 2025 at 12:49 PM  
**To:** Theodora Scarato theodora@ehsciences.org



Hi, Theodora. Thanks for your follow-up questions.

On background: The total approximate cost came from a combination of estimated and actual costs incurred both on NIEHS contracts and through intramural staff support.

Also, the RFR exposure system was disassembled following completion of the studies, and the chambers are not available for other scientists.

Regarding your last question, we are looking into a potential server issue that may be causing slower download times.

Best,  
Jesse

Jesse Saffron, J.D.  
Acting Director, Office of Communications & Public Liaison  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
National Institutes of Health  
David P. Rall Building (RTP 101) / Room: B202  
Office phone: 984-287-3196  
Cell phone: 301-661-7440  
Email: jesse.saffron@nih.gov

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**From:** Theodora Scarato <theodora@ehsciences.org>  
**Date:** Monday, August 25, 2025 at 10:07 AM  
**To:** "Saffron, Jesse (NIH/NIEHS) [E]" <jesse.saffron@nih.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Cell Phone Radiation Pilot Study Report Inquiry

Dear Jesse Safron,  
Thank you so much for the information.

1. Where did the approximate cost at \$5.3 million come from?
2. Are the chambers still intact and would they be available for other scientists?
3. Would it be possible to put the video recordings on YouTube?  
[https://www.youtube.com/@NIH\\_NIEHS](https://www.youtube.com/@NIH_NIEHS) If you separate them out to individual clips they are not so large. So they could easily be a playlist. If you made them unlisted they would not clutter the youtube channel page but still exist of the link you provide.

Thank you so much for considering, Theodora Scarato

On Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 9:19 AM Saffron, Jesse (NIH/NIEHS) [E] <[jesse.saffron@nih.gov](mailto:jesse.saffron@nih.gov)> wrote:

Dear Theodora, thank you again for your interest in this report.

The total approximate cost for this project, which spanned roughly 8 years, is \$5.3 million. A compiled breakdown of all specific allocations is not available.

Regarding peer-review materials: There was no public peer review meeting. There are no recordings, meeting minutes, meeting notes, etc., as this was conducted as a letter peer review, similar to a journal peer review, which is the review process we use for this type of report.

Also, thank you for identifying download issues with the video recordings. We explored multiple distribution approaches, and the most technically feasible approach was to post them via our Chemical Effects in Biological Systems database. Given the large file sizes, downloading may take longer, and download times may vary based on internet speed. We are in conversation with our IT staff about potential ways to improve download times.

Last but not least, regarding question 6 below: It is not possible to directly compare the 5-day studies with the previous NTP 90-day studies. The pilot studies involved only five days of exposure duration, and the observations appear to be consistent with other published literature indicating that shorter durations of exposure may not induce significant levels of DNA damage, as noted on page 46 of the report.

Sincerely,  
Jesse

Jesse Saffron, J.D.  
Acting Director, Office of Communications & Public Liaison  
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**From:** Theodora Scarato <[theodora@ehsciences.org](mailto:theodora@ehsciences.org)>

**Date:** Thursday, August 14, 2025 at 3:21 PM

**To:** "Saffron, Jesse (NIH/NIEHS) [E]" <[jesse.saffron@nih.gov](mailto:jesse.saffron@nih.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Cell Phone Radiation Pilot Study Report Inquiry

Thank you so much,  
-Theodora Scarato

On Thu, Aug 14, 2025 at 3:11 PM Saffron, Jesse (NIH/NIEHS) [E]  
<[jesse.saffron@nih.gov](mailto:jesse.saffron@nih.gov)> wrote:

Dear Theodora, thank you for emailing Drs. Walker and Smith-Roe, and for your interest in this report.

My name is Jesse Saffron, and I'm the communications director here at NIEHS. I will work to facilitate responses to your questions and be in touch as soon as possible.

Best,  
Jesse

Jesse Saffron, J.D.  
Acting Director, Office of Communications & Public Liaison  
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**From:** Theodora Scarato <[theodora@ehsciences.org](mailto:theodora@ehsciences.org)>  
**Date:** Thursday, August 14, 2025 at 1:04 PM  
**To:** Walker, Nigel (NIH/NIEHS) [E] <[walker3@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:walker3@niehs.nih.gov)>, Smith-Roe, Stephanie (NIH/NIEHS) [E] <[stephanie.smith-roe@nih.gov](mailto:stephanie.smith-roe@nih.gov)>  
**Cc:** Katherine McMahon <[katherine@ehsciences.org](mailto:katherine@ehsciences.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Cell Phone Radiation Pilot Study Report Inquiry

Dear Dr. Walker and Dr. Smith-Roe,

I hope this message finds you well. Thank you for your research.

I am writing on behalf of Environmental Health Sciences, an independent science and news organization covering developments in environmental health. We are preparing coverage related to the NIEHS report titled "Development and Testing of a Novel Whole-body Exposure System for Investigative Studies of Radiofrequency Radiation in Rodents."

I am writing to kindly request further details and documentation related to the pilot studies described in the NIEHS report titled "Development and Testing of a Novel Whole-body Exposure System for Investigative Studies of Radiofrequency Radiation in Rodents." Specifically, I would greatly appreciate your assistance with the following:

Pilot Study Budget

1. Could you please provide the total cost for these pilot studies? This includes any funding allocated for equipment, personnel, facility usage, supplies, or related expenditures.
2. Could you provide a budget breakdown if available.

#### Peer-Review Materials

3. Are there video recordings or other media from the peer-review panels that evaluated these pilot studies?
4. I would also like to request any written peer-review documentation—such as notes, meeting minutes, critiques, or reviewer comments—that were generated during the review process.
5. I tried to download the video recordings (<https://cebs.niehs.nih.gov/cebs/paper/16138>) but they did not download in over an hour. Will you be putting them up online in another format so the public can access them ? If not, can you please send me the footage in another way.

#### Safety Conclusions

6. Does the pilot study data negate the importance of the genotoxicity findings from the NTP chronic exposure studies?

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

I look forward to your response.

Theodora Scarato

**Theodora M. Scarato**  
[Environmental Health Sciences](#)

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[EHSciences.org](http://EHSciences.org)

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**Theodora M. Scarato**

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**Theodora M. Scarato**

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