

Comment from Michael Mitchell

I am opposed to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration proposed mandate of two-way connected communications in vehicles. My two primary objections are as follows:

1. The federal government has no clear authority to be involved in this field.
2. It is probable that the resulting increase in radiation would be harmful to those exposed to it. I say this because I am aware of the studies by independent researchers which show that cell phone radiation is harmful.

However, realizing that government agencies are generally unconcerned about limits on their lawful authority, and generally unconcerned about health effects of technology, I also am concerned about other aspects of the technology. I offer the following comments.

I am concerned that implementation of such technology will constitute an invasion of privacy. Any means of facilitating connected communications in vehicles must be unobtrusive and transparent. It must not demand attention from the driver, who is already subject to many distractions.

Connected communications must be easily turned off or removed by the vehicle owner.

The cost should be borne by the providers who will profit, not by vehicle owners or taxpayers.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.