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Zimbabwe: Lawsuit Dismissed

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Mr Neil Bruce, whose house is situated about 30 metres from the Econet base station, had sought an order from the court to have the mast removed arguing that residents were not consulted in view of the dangers posed by the electromagnetic radiation, especially to their children. Justice Alfas Chitakunye on Wednesday last week threw out the application by Mr Bruce. "The application is dismissed with costs," read the operative part of the judgment. Mr Bruce, in his application, argued that residents in Ballantyne Park, who visit the adjacent shopping centre, also risked suffering from the effects of harmful radiation.

Despite the fact that he had communicated to council, Health and Child Welfare Minister Cde David Parirenyatwa and the local Member of the House of Assembly expressing his concerns over erection of the mast, Mr Bruce said, he got no response prompting him to take council to court. He accused council of failing to entertain an objection despite support for it in the community.

Mr Bruce challenged the decision by council citing a well-documented study done on the effects of electro-magnetic radiation caused by cellphone towers.