

Westbury's Yuppie-phone Tower is the height of arrogance, says O'Dea

By EUGENE PHELAN

FIANNA Fáil TD, Willie O'Dea today lashed out at the "arrogant and dictatorial" manner of Telecom Éireann over their handling of what he termed "the Westbury mast scandal."

"They are doing work out on it, even though they promised the residents that they would get back onto them," he said.

"They are just brushing aside the residents in a very arrogant and dictatorial manner. It just is not good enough," he stated.

"According to the residents Telecom have accepted that there will be some devaluation on the houses out there. I think that the residents have a just reason for a claim," he said.

"As far as I am aware Telecom also accept that there may be a radiation factor. I have made several attempts to speak to the chief executive of Telecom, but I could never get him, and he never got back to me," complained Deputy O'Dea.

He said that Clare County Council were watching the situation very closely.

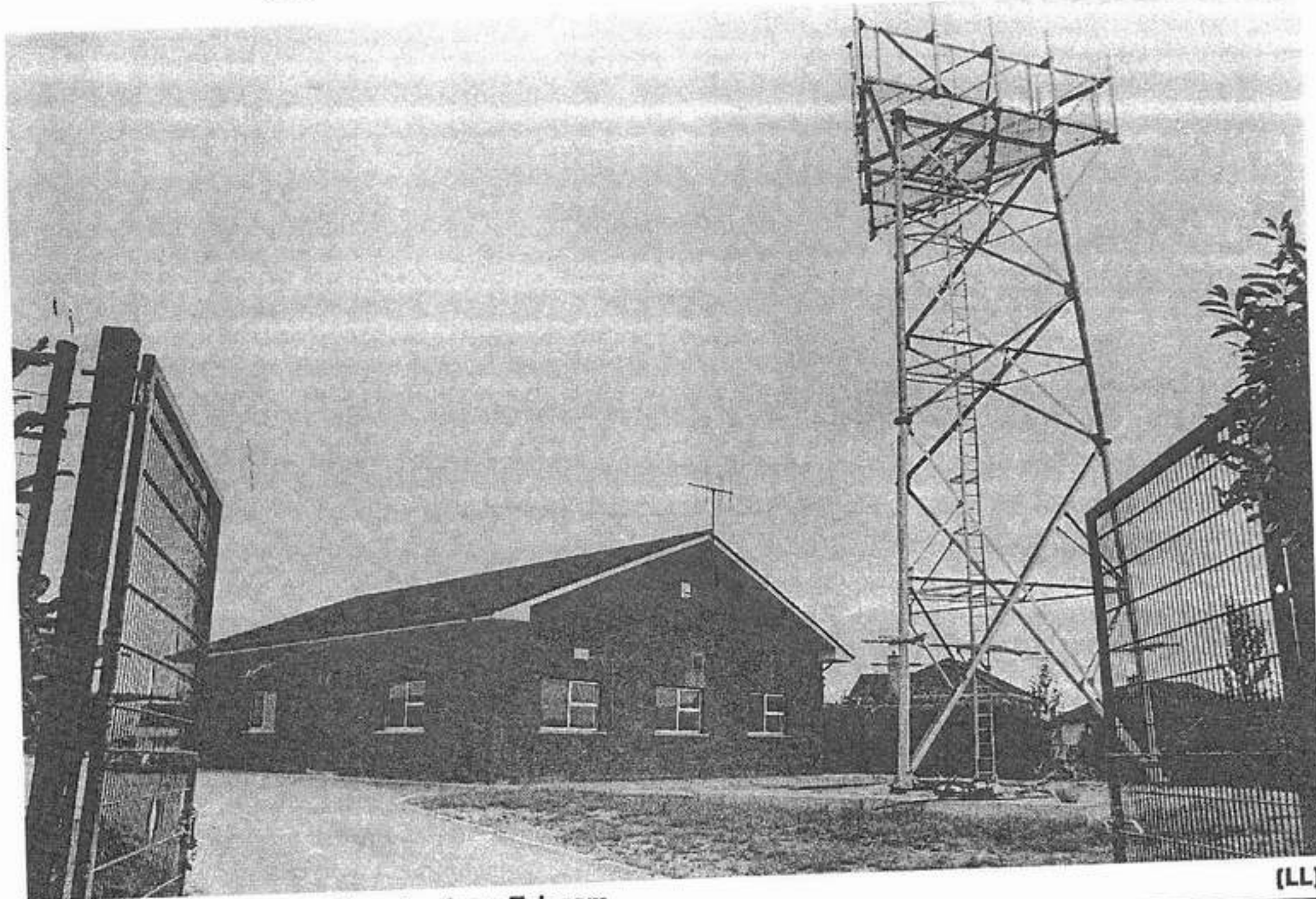
When the comments of Deputy O'Dea were put to Telecom Éireann, a statement from their Dublin Headquarters stated that they had talked to residents about the antenna support structure at Westbury.

They had explained that any emission from the structure were "within guidelines set down by the Non-Ionising Radiation Committee of the International Radiological Protection Association.

"The primary reason for erecting this structure is to support and enhance Eircell mobile phone service throughout that area," added the spokesman.

Telecom said that Cellular Mobile Communications Systems, (Eircell) are evolving from being purely a business tool, to being a universal service.

They say that it will be used extensively by householders within their domestic environment. Thus, it is essential that suburban areas of Limerick and Clare are adequately covered by Eircell to facilitate this new type of customer.



Three Westbury mast - still no joy from Telecom.

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