

2. Common Uses for RF Radiation

Common uses of RF radiation include:

Microwave ovens;

Radar;

Industrial heating and sealing processes;

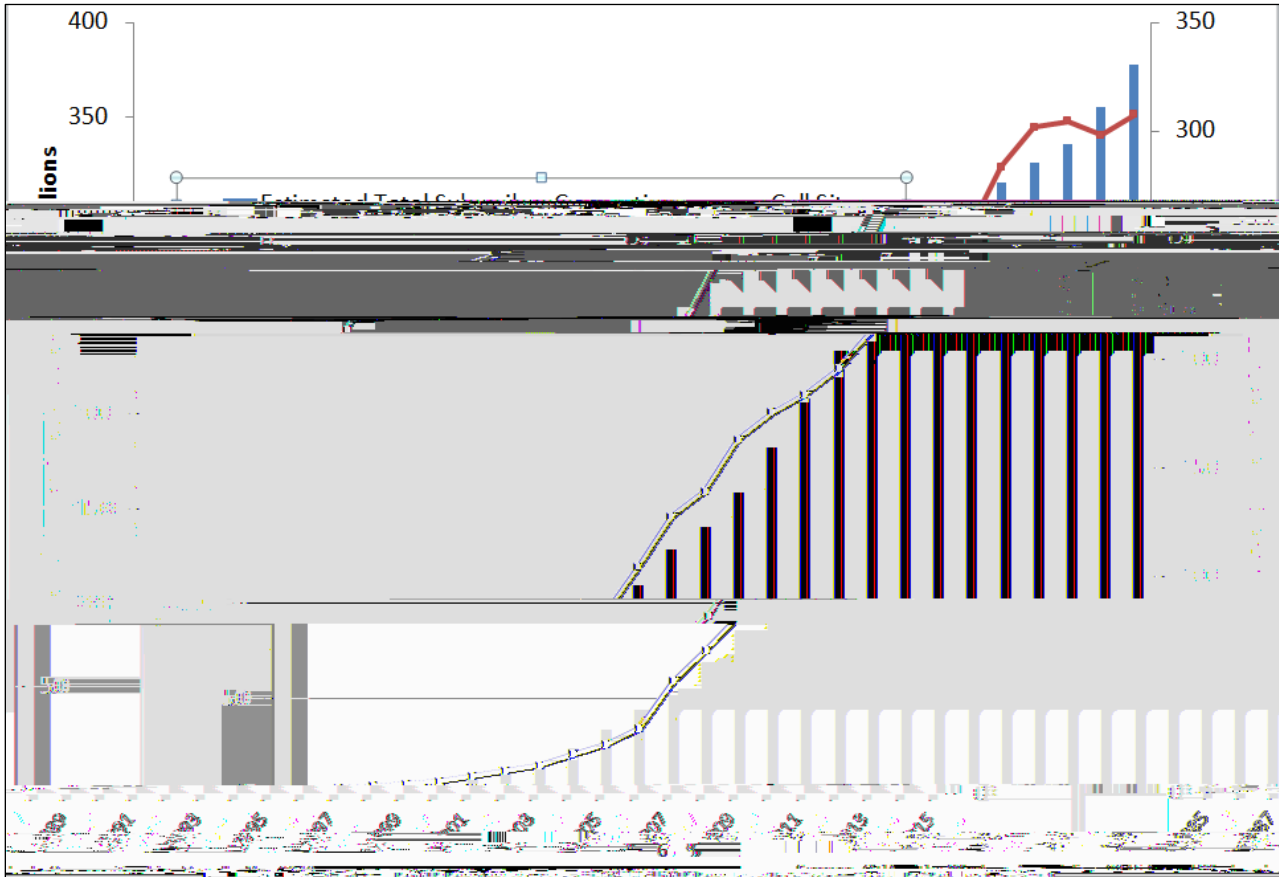
Medical applications; and

Telecommunications & broadcast services. This latter category includes cellular antennas and base stations, radio and television broadcasting, radio communications for police and fire departments, microwave point-to-point radio links, and satellite communications.

According to the Federal Communications Commission, “[t]he most important use for RF energy is in providing telecommunications services.”⁴ This use of RF radiation is the one we are most concerned about because telecommunications equipment is frequently installed on rooftops, sides of buildings, and/or on other elevated structures where work is performed.

As demand for cellular service has grown, there has been a significant increase in the number of cellular sites in a relatively short period of time. **According to CTIA – The Wireless Association, between 1985 and 2015, the estimated number of cellular subscriber connections grew exponentially from 340,213 to more than 377 million*, and the number of cellular**

Figure 2-A



One subscriber can have more than one connection.