

France

Exposure guidelines	Decree of May 3, 2002 decree on public exposure to electromagnetic fields limits. Compliance with the exposure limits for EMF fields fixed by the ICNIRP, in 1998 and 2009.
Planning Authority	Mayor (Municipalities) and French Frequency Authority (Agence Nationale des Fréquences – ANFr) for the emission license ¹ .
Requirements for planning permission	<p>Compliance with the urban planning Code. Planning permission is mandatory for :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- New constructions : building of a mast higher than 12m or creation of a shelter, whose surface exceeds 5 m²;- Existing constructions : whenever<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The new construction affects the outside aspect of an existing building ;▪ There are changes in the shelter, with creation of a surface that exceeds 5m².
Timescales for Permission	Legally required timescales for Planning permission vary from one month (for simplified procedure “Déclaration Préalable” without consultation) to more than five months for building permit.
Appeals process	Appeal procedures are handled by administrative courts. ²
Public Consultation	<p>Guide of Best Practices with local authorities “Guide des relations entre opérateurs et communes” (GROC).</p> <p>NB: there might be local agreements, usually based on GROC, between operators and municipalities in order to define local deployment and information procedures.</p>

¹ In October, 2011, the State Council (Conseil d'Etat - highest administrative court in France) stated that the State (through mandated national agencies ARCEP and ANFR) is the only competent authority to regulate on the installation of new masts.

² According to the Jurisdiction Court, “actions meant to obtain the shut-down, the prohibition of the construction, the removal or the displacement of a duly authorized base station, sited on public or private property, on the grounds that its functioning could compromise the health of people leaving in the neighborhood or lead to interferences,” is a matter for the administrative judge.

For more information, please refer to the [governmental leaflet about roll out of the antennas](#).

Exemptions &
Existing site
upgrade

Masts below 12 meters, equipment not affecting the outside aspect of existing building, shelters < 2 sq. meters.

The following cases are exempted from a planning permission :

- New constructions : building of a mast less or equal to 12 m or creation of a shelter, whose surface less than 5 m² ;
- Existing constructions : whenever
 - the new construction does not affects the outside aspect of an existing building ;
 - there are no changes in the shelter and surface is smaller than 5 m².

NB: Micro base stations with EIRP below 5 W don't need to go through the consultation process at the ANFR and simple declaration is needed. For higher power base stations, the emission permit is issued after a consultation with other spectrum partners by the ANFR.

(GSMA Europe: Extract from Base Station Planning Permission In Europe, December 2013.)