

WHO International EMF Project

International Advisory Committee meeting

New Zealand country report 2019

Policies and legislation on EMF exposures

Legislation and Standards

An evaluation of the effectiveness of the 2008 National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission (NPSET) and 2009 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission Activities) Regulations (NESETA) is still in progress.

Policies

The Interagency Committee on the Health Effects of Non-Ionising Fields met twice during the year to provide the New Zealand Director General of Health with scientific and technical advice on any potential health effects from exposures to ELF and RF fields. The results from recent research considered by the Committee have not given cause for concern or to change existing recommendations.

An updated *Report to Ministers* has been published and is available on the Ministry of Health website*. The report updates the 2015 version and draws on more recent research and research reviews, and includes summaries of those reviews. It also adds discussions of more recent technologies, such as 5G. Overall it concludes that current policies and recommendations on exposures to ELF and RF fields are still valid and will continue to be valid for 5G.

Public concerns and information activities

The Ministry of Health website is updated regularly to add new topics of interest and add links to new information of relevance (such as national and international reviews of recent research). The full range of information on NIR is most easily accessed at www.health.govt.nz/our-work/radiation-safety/non-ionising-radiation.

There have been no major public concerns over the past year. The proposed introduction of 5G services over the coming years has resulted in some correspondence expressing concerns.

Research activities

Researchers at the Massey University Centre for Public Health Research (CPHR) have contributed to further papers based on the INTEROCC data.

The TNE Research Group at the Massey University School of Engineering and Advanced Technology has completed a simulation analysis to predict the power density in a dense indoor setting assuming 28 GHz transmission frequency, and found that exposures would not exceed recommended limits.

New Zealand Ministry of Health
May 2019

* www.health.govt.nz/publication/interagency-committee-health-effects-non-ionising-fields-report-ministers-2018