# WHO International EMF Project
# International Advisory Committee meeting
# New Zealand country report 2018

## 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. The NPSET requires that any local planning rules covering the electricity transmission network (national grid) must be based on the ICNIRP 1998 Guidelines, and recommendations from the WHO 2007 review, or revisions thereof. The NESETA covers specified maintenance activities on transmission lines forming part of the national grid, and require that EMF exposures after the maintenance comply with the 1998 ICNIRP Guidelines.

### 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 and no change to existing recommendations.

An update of the Committee's *Report to Ministers* is being prepared.

A discussion document on allocation of frequencies for 5G services has been published.

## 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.

Based on media reports, queries and correspondence there have been no major public concerns over the past year. The rollout of 5G networks anticipated in 2-3 years has given rise to a few concerns, and was the subject of 75 (out of more than 300) submissions on the allocation of frequencies for 3G services.

## Research activities

Researchers at the Massey University Centre for Public Health Research (CPHR) have contributed to further papers based on the INTEROCC data. CPHR researchers have submitted their data for the New Zealand part of the MOBI-Kids study.

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. The results are being prepared for publication.

New Zealand Ministry of Health
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