

14 NOV 2019

Sue Grey  
By email: [suegreylawyer@gmail.com](mailto:suegreylawyer@gmail.com)  
Ref: H201909141

Dear Ms Grey

### **Response to request for official information**

Thank you for your request of 16 October 2019 to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

*"C) any evidence to show New Zealanders including pregnant women, children and fetuses are more resilient to RFEMR than the citizens of the states listed above*

*D) any information to show remedies and or compensation available for NZers who suffer harm from or attributable in part to RFEMR*

*E) any information to show what if any insurance cover is available to individual NZers and or to the NZ government for harm from RFEMR"*

In response to part C of your request, please refer to the Ministry's previous response to you of 2 July 2019 (ref: H201903989). The Ministry recommends compliance with International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) limits. These limits have been incorporated into New Zealand Standard *NZS 2772.1:1999 Radiofrequency fields – Maximum exposure levels – 3 kHz to 300 GHz* and were based on a comprehensive review of the research existing at the time they were prepared and have been subsequently reaffirmed in 2009<sup>1</sup> following a review of more recent research in this area<sup>2</sup>, and again in 2017<sup>3</sup>.

Additionally, research published since 2009 have been reviewed by several other health and scientific bodies, none of which has questioned the underlying basis of the limits used in New Zealand. Links to recent reviews can be found at: <http://health.govt.nz/our-work/radiation-safety/non-ionising-radiation/research-non-ionising-radiation>. There is no

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.icnirp.org/cms/upload/publications/ICNIRPStatementEMF.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> ICNIRP. Exposure to high frequency electromagnetic fields, biological effects and health consequences (100 kHz-300 GHz) - Review of the Scientific Evidence and Health Consequences. Munich: International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection; 2009. ISBN 978-3-934994-10-2.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.icnirp.org/en/activities/news/news-article/revision-of-hf-guidelines-2017.html>

good evidence to suggest that exposures that comply with the public limits pose a danger for pregnant women, children and fetuses.


Parts D and E of your request have been refused under section 18(g) of the Act as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and there is no reason to believe it is held by another agency subject to the Act.

The Ministry has provided you with all the information it has on radiofrequency fields, including 5G. Please note that the Ministry may use section 18(h) of the Act to decline your requests in future, where the nature of the request is frivolous or vexatious, including for requests that duplicate previous information requests made by you.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made in this response.

Please note this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D Woodley', written in a cursive style.

Deborah Woodley  
**Deputy Director-General**  
**Population, Health and Prevention**