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12 July 2023

Bruce

By email: fyi-request-23277-b8b75a43@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H2023028536

Tēnā koe Bruce

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 4 July 2023 for information regarding 5G towers and health. You requested:

Have any prior studies been conducted to assess the health risks associated with the antennas and the radio waves they emit?

Please note that Manatū Hauora does not conduct studies or research. However, Manatū Hauora convenes the *Interagency Committee on the Health Effects of Non-ionising Fields*, which monitors and reviews research on the health effects of electromagnetic fields in meetings held twice a year. More information about the Committee, including the latest report and a review of the research, can be found at: www.health.govt.nz/publication/interagency-committee-health-effects-non-ionising-fields-report-ministers-2022.

Are there any safety standards or guidelines in place to make sure the antennas don't pose a health risk to nearby residents?

Exposure levels to radiofrequency (RF) fields are covered by New Zealand Standard NZS 2772.1:1999 *Radiofrequency Fields – Part 1: Maximum exposure levels – 3 kHz to 300 GHz*.

NZS 2772.1 sets limits for exposure to the RF fields produced by all types of transmitters. Further information about this can be found within the report here: www.health.govt.nz/publication/interagency-committee-health-effects-non-ionising-fields-report-ministers-2022.

I trust this information fulfils your request. If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: oiagr@health.govt.nz.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ross Bell', is positioned above the typed name.

Ross Bell
Acting Deputy Director-General
Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui