

6 May 2026

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Tēnā koe Spencer

Your request for official information, reference: HN200203154

Thank you for your email on 25 April 2026, asking Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora for further information about Smart Meter RF Exposure under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA). For clarity, I will respond to each question in turn:

Response

Thank you for your response dated 24 April 2026, reference HN200202225. I am making this follow-up request under the Official Information Act 1982. Your response states that no clinical guidance, advice, escalation pathway, or referral process exists for patients reporting EMF sensitivity or smart meter-related symptoms.

To clarify the record and search position, please provide the following:

1. Search methodology

Please confirm:

- * which Health NZ teams, units, or roles were consulted;*
- * which systems or repositories were searched;*
- * whether email, shared drives, document management systems, and public health records were searched;*
- * what search terms were used, including whether “EMF”, “EHS”, “electromagnetic hypersensitivity”, “smart meter”, “radiofrequency”, and “non-ionising radiation” were used.*

We advise that your request was adequately investigated and we stand by its processing. The responses were provided by the National Public Health Service (NPHS) Protection Directorate. The NPHS's responsibilities for EMF and non-ionising radiation relate to public health risk assessment and guidance, including the information published on our website.

2. Clinical responsibility

Please confirm whether Health NZ has any team, role, or clinical governance function responsible for:

- * patient presentations involving environmental sensitivity;*
- * EMF sensitivity / EHS complaints;*
- * non-ionising radiation health concerns;*
- * smart meter-related health concerns.*

If no such function exists, please explicitly confirm this.

There is no team single team, role or clinical governance that undertakes these responsibilities. The inter-agency committee on non-ionising radiation has both Health NZ and Ministry of Health representation.

3. Patient handling pathway

Please confirm whether Health NZ holds any records, guidance, or advice explaining how clinicians, Healthline, public health units, or triage services should respond when a patient reports symptoms attributed to EMF exposure or smart meters.

If no such records exist, please confirm whether this is because:

- * no guidance has ever been created; or
- * guidance may exist locally or regionally but is not held centrally.

6. Recordkeeping clarification

If Health NZ's position is that no relevant clinical guidance or pathway exists, please confirm whether any record exists explaining why this issue has not been assessed as requiring guidance or policy development. If no such record exists, please confirm under section 18(e).

No guidance has been created as there is no conclusive evidence that EMF exposure or smart meters cause harm to health if they meet the limits set out in the NZ radiofrequency exposure standards.

4. Policy assessment

Please provide any records showing whether Health NZ has considered whether clinical guidance should be developed for EMF sensitivity, EHS, or smart meter-related health complaints. If no assessment has been undertaken, please explicitly confirm this under section 18(e).

Due to the lack of conclusive evidence, no assessment has been undertaken. However, as part of the interagency committee on non-ionising radiation, international literature is scanned and assessed to improve understanding of science and health impacts from non-ionising radiation.

5. Appendix 1 linkage

Appendix 1 shows Health NZ holds recent EMF-related scientific and inter-agency correspondence, including material concerning WHO RF-EMF work and non-ionising radiation. Please confirm whether any of that material has been assessed for implications for:

- * patient-facing guidance;
- * public health advice;
- * Healthline or triage scripts;
- * clinical escalation pathways;
- * GP or specialist guidance.

If no such assessment has occurred, please confirm this.

All material that comes from the World Health Organisation, academia or other agencies is assessed for any health impacts through the interagency committee on non-ionising radiation.

How to get in touch

If you have any questions, you can contact us at h.nzOIA@tewhatuora.govt.nz. If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Health NZ may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Sara Freitag

Manager, Government Services