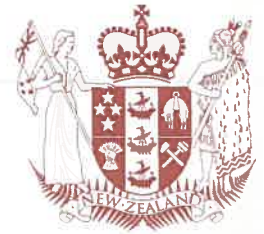


Hon Iain Lees-Galloway



MP for Palmerston North

Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety Deputy Leader of the House

Minister of Immigration

Minister for ACC

26 JUN 2018

P L Ford

fyi-request-7928-e2f4abc1@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Ford

Your request of 24 May 2018 to the Prime Minister has been transferred to this office for a response. You requested the following information:

“Any information in the Government Legislation that permits WorkSafe NZ to refuse to purchase/ consider the recommendation in international safety standards when they do not have adequate knowledge themselves and/or take in to account similar matters of significance such as the Australian incident.”

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

I can confirm that there is no legislation which permits WorkSafe New Zealand to refuse to purchase international safety standards or consider the recommendations of these standards. Nor is there legislation which requires WorkSafe to purchase international safety standards or consider the recommendations of these standards.

Standards, both local and international, can be helpful in determining what measures are reasonably practicable to ensure health and safety and in identifying risks and controls, however they are not definitive. Expert opinions can also be useful however experts do not always agree. The Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 is a risk based legislation and WorkSafe New Zealand have worked with Nga Taonga Sound and Vision to ensure that they have adequately addressed the risks associated with Radio Frequency Radiation at this specific site so far as is reasonably practicable.

You have the right, by way of complaint under section 28(3) of the OIA, to request an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

I trust the information provided is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ian Lees-Galloway', written in a cursive style.

Hon Ian Lees-Galloway
Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety