

Laura Bowman

From: Official Information
Sent: Monday, 19 September 2022 1:21 pm
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Official Information
Subject: Final Response - LGOIMA 281257 - [REDACTED] - investigations checking the safety of the radiation from the cell towers in the Hamilton City Council area

Kia Ora,

I refer to your **information request below**, Hamilton City Council is able to provide the following response.

Your Request:

What investigations have been done by both council staff and councillors to check the safety of the radiation emitted from the cell towers in the Hamilton City council area. I request the dates when testing has taken place and the results obtained.

Our Response:

In short, Hamilton City Council does not carry out 'investigations' to check the safety of radiation from cell phone towers.

Because we do not hold the information you requested, we are refusing your request under section 17(g) of LGOIMA. The establishment of cell phone towers (a telecommunication facility) is regulated by the [Resource Management \(National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities\) Regulations 2016 \(NESTF\)](#). These regulations set thresholds that if exceeded would require resource consent. One of these thresholds is in relation to radiofrequency fields. These are found in regulation 55. The regulation makes reference to the following New Zealand standards-

- AS/NZS 2772.2:2016 Radiofrequency fields – Part 2: Principles and methods of measurement and computation – 3 kHz to 300 GHz
- NZS 2772.1:1999 Radiofrequency fields – Maximum exposure levels – 3 kHz to 300 GHz

Regulation 55 requires an operator of a telecommunications facility to give Council written or electronic notice of the facility's location and a pre-commencement report before the facility becomes operational. The report must be prepared in accordance with AS/NZS 2772.2, it must take into account exposures arising from other telecommunication facilities in the vicinity of the proposed facility and predict whether the radiofrequency field levels at places in the vicinity of the facility that are reasonably accessible to the general public will comply with NZS 2772.1 (which sets maximum exposure levels). If the report complies with these requirements, then the facility can commence operation.

However, if the report shows that the radiofrequency field levels would likely be at least 25% of the maximum level authorised by NZS 2772.1, then a post-commencement report must be prepared in accordance with AS/NZS 2772.2 and provide evidence (which normally involves measurements) that the actual radiofrequency field levels at places in the vicinity of the facility that are reasonably accessible to the general public comply with NZS 2772.1.

If the pre or post-commencement reports do not comply with the above requirements in respect of the generation of radiofrequency fields, the activity is a non-complying activity.

More information on the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Regulations 2016 (NESTF) can be found [here](#).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Kind Regards,

Laura | Official Information Coordinator
Governance & Assurance Team | People and Organisational Performance
Email: officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz



Hamilton City Council | Private Bag 3010 | Hamilton 3240 | Hamilton City Council

From: noreply@hamilton.govt.nz <noreply@hamilton.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 8 September 2022 12:09 pm
To: Official Information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>
Subject: [Mass email/Possible SPAM] OIA Request - HCC-OIA-220908-DG1KE



We've received a request for you.

This request was received on 08 September 2022 @ 12:08PM.

Here's your reference number and the request details:

UUID

HCC-OIA-220908-DG1KE

Name

7(2)(a)

Email

7(2)(a)

Phone number

7(2)(a)

Detailed description of request

what investigations have been done by both council staff and councillors to check the safety of the radiation emitted from the cell towers in the Hamilton City council area. I request the dates when testing has taken place and the results obtained.

Organisation

Attachments

Created

08 September 2022 @ 12:08PM

If you have any questions in the meantime, feel free to call us on [\(07\) 838 6699](tel:(07)8386699) or [email our customer service team](mailto:customer.service@hamiltoncouncil.govt.nz).

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