

From: Norris, Sarah
Sent: Tuesday, 21 January 2020 1:31 PM
To: Street, Celia; MURPHY, Brendan; s22
Cc: s22 s22
Subject: CMO 5G Statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: s47C

Hi – as discussed at today’s meeting please find attached the following documents for Friday’s release.

- The CMO 5G Statement (have included an additional link to DoCA’s new webpage on EME).
- The talking points in case of media enquiries.

Kind regards
Sarah

DOCUMENTS RELEASED UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982 (CTH)
BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Statement from Australia's Chief Medical Officer, Professor Brendan Murphy, about the safety of the new generation 5G mobile phone network

I'd like to reassure the community that 5G technology is safe.

There is no evidence telecommunication technologies, such as 5G, cause adverse health impacts.

This position is supported by health authorities in Australia – such as the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) – and around the world, such as the World Health Organization (WHO).

Mobile phone networks and other wireless telecommunications emit low-powered radio waves also known as radiofrequency (RF) electromagnetic energy (EME). This is different to ionising radiation associated with nuclear energy or use in medicine.

The radio waves to which the general public is exposed from telecommunications are not hazardous to human health.

To ensure the public remains protected, ARPANSA established limits for EME through a Standard. This Standard is designed to protect people from exposure to radio waves. Limits are set well below the levels where there is evidence of some biological effects such as tissue heating.

Under the Australian Communications and Media Authority's regulatory framework, all telecommunications, including new 5G technology, have to comply with the exposure limits in the ARPANSA Standard.

In order to further improve understanding about this issue, the Australian Government recently announced an investment of \$3 million over four years to assure the public of the safety of telecommunications networks, including new 5G mobile networks.

New initiatives under the Enhanced EME Program will include more targeted scientific research and public information to address community concerns.

Further information about exposure to the 5G network is available from the [ARPANSA website](#) and the Department of Communications and the Arts website, including:

- [5G and your health](#)
- [Misinformation about Australia's 5G network](#)
- [5 facts on 5G](#)
- [Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Energy Emissions](#)

Talking Points 5G Media Release

- The Community should be reassured that 5G technology is safe.
- There is no evidence telecommunication technologies, such as 5G, cause adverse health impacts.
- The position of the Australian Government Department of Health is supported by health authorities and expert bodies around the world including the World Health Organization and the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection.
- The radio waves which the general public is exposed to from telecommunications are not hazardous to human health.
- Mobile phone networks and other wireless telecommunications emit low-powered radio waves also known as radiofrequency electromagnetic energy.
 - This is different to ionising radiation associated with nuclear energy or use in medicine.
- To ensure the public remains protected, ARPANSA established limits for radiofrequency electromagnetic energy through a standard.
- This standard, which already covers 5G technologies, is designed to protect people from exposure to radio waves. Under the Australian Communications and Media Authority's regulatory framework, all telecommunications, including new 5G technology, have to comply with the exposure limits in the ARPANSA standard.
- The Australian Government recently announced an investment of \$9 million over four years to build the public confidence in the safety of telecommunications networks.
- The new initiative will include additional scientific research and public education to build on existing Electromagnetic Energy Safety Programs.