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**From:** s22  
**Sent:** Friday, 20 December 2019 5:13 PM  
**To:** s47F  
**Cc:** MURPHY, Brendan; Street, Celia; Norris, Sarah; s22  
**Subject:** RE: 5G - Health & Safety [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** s47C

Hi s47F

Many thanks for sending through Chris' letter. The team has developed a draft CMO statement, attached for AMTA's consideration.

Pending approval by the Minister's office, we plan on publishing the statement on the Department of Health website in mid-January.

Grateful if you are able to let us know if you have any concerns with the attached draft statement.

Kind regards,

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Australian Government Department of Health

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MDP 84, GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601

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**From:** s22  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 November 2019 9:00 AM  
**To:** MURPHY, Brendan <Brendan.Murphy@health.gov.au>  
**Subject:** 5G - Health & Safety [SEC=No Protective Marking]

Dear Professor Murphy,

Please find attached a letter and fact sheets in relation to latest generation mobile networks – 5G from the CEO of the Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association.

Kind regards,

s47F

| EA to Chris Althaus, CEO

Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association - AMTA

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| [www.amta.org.au](http://www.amta.org.au)

15 November 2019

Professor Brendan Murphy  
Chief Medical Officer  
Department of Health  
GPO Box 9848  
Canberra ACT 2601

[Brendan.murphy@health.gov.au](mailto:Brendan.murphy@health.gov.au)

Dear Brendan,

As you are no doubt aware there is a great deal of misinformation in the public domain regarding health and safety implications of the 5<sup>th</sup> generation of mobile technology (5G).

AMTA has developed a range of material to address the main themes (see attached) and ARPANSA have also been very active in working to ensure the facts as reflected in body of science are present in the public discourse. In addition, AMTA understands the Department of Communications is planning to release some fact sheet style information and the ACMA has also produced a fact sheet on small cells.

AMTA also held a drop-in session in Parliament House with ARPANSA and the ACMA on Sept 16 to present a range of information and provide some demonstrations of EMF measurements etc. This session will be repeated on November 25<sup>th</sup> in the Mural Hall of Parliament House – see attached invitation. You and any of your staff are most welcome to attend.

While ARPANSA continue to do a good job in adding their perspectives, AMTA also sees a role for the Health Department to engage in this conversation. Indeed, most recently this has occurred in NZ with some strong statements made by their Health Dept. in response to the misinformation being circulated in their market.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this issue with you as needed, otherwise our request is a simple one – that your voice is added to the conversation as a reflection of the Dept. of Health's perspective on this issue.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

s47F

Chris Althaus  
**AMTA CEO**

AMTA Fact Sheets att:  
What is 5G  
A Guide to Small Cells  
5G and EMF Explained  
Invitation to Nov 25<sup>th</sup> Parliament House 5G / EME information session

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

The community should be reassured 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 around the world, including the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA).

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 which the general public is exposed to 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 \$9 million over four years to build public confidence in the safety of telecommunications networks, including new 5G mobile networks.

New initiatives will include additional scientific research and public education to build on existing EME safety programs.

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

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