

29 August 2025

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

Your request

Thank you for your requests, received on 2 August 2025, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) for the following information:

- *Copies of safety reviews, monitoring reports, or compliance audits carried out by or provided to the Electricity Authority since 2010 that evaluate the electromagnetic field (EMF) emissions, radiofrequency (RF) output, or power quality of smart meters installed at residential properties.*
- *Any data, reports, or enforcement notices issued under the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 (particularly Clause 11.27) that relate to:*
 - o *Faulty, unsafe, or non-compliant smart meter installations;*
 - o *Health complaints, electrical surges, or equipment damage reported by consumers.*
- *Any communications or reports shared with the Ministry of Health, MBIE, or WorkSafe regarding consumer health complaints, risk mitigation, or EMF safety standards applied to smart meter installations."*

And,

1. *All risk assessments, exposure modelling or compliance documentation prepared or commissioned by the Authority relating to smart meter EMF safety, including internal reviews or data shared with distribution networks (Vector, Northpower, etc.)*
2. *Records of any public enquiries, complaints or dispute cases received by the Electricity Authority from consumers claiming health symptoms following smart meter installation, including the nature, status, and resolution of each case.*
3. *Copies of policy or advice papers wherein the Electricity Authority reviewed or referenced biomedical literature assessing non thermal chronic health effects from smart meters.*
4. *Correspondence between the Authority and Ministry of Health, MBIE, or regional health bodies relating to smart meter rollout and health risk oversight.*

On 8 August we contacted you to advise that, because your requests were received in short succession and about the same topic, we would be treating them as one request. We also asked that you refine your request. We noted that without refinement, responding to your request would require substantial collation and research, and without refinement we may need to refuse the request.

We have not heard back about the refinement to date.

Our response

For sake of clarity, I have re-ordered some of your questions and will respond to your request in parts.

- *Copies of safety reviews, monitoring reports, or compliance audits carried out by or provided to the Electricity Authority since 2010 that evaluate the electromagnetic field (EMF) emissions, radiofrequency (RF) output, or power quality of smart meters installed at residential properties.*

- *All risk assessments, exposure modelling or compliance documentation prepared or commissioned by the Authority relating to smart meter EMF safety, including internal reviews or data shared with distribution networks (Vector, Northpower, etc.)*
- *Copies of policy or advice papers wherein the Electricity Authority reviewed or referenced biomedical literature assessing non thermal chronic health effects from smart meters.*
- *Correspondence between the Authority and Ministry of Health, MBIE, or regional health bodies relating to smart meter rollout and health risk oversight.*
- *Any data, reports, or enforcement notices issued under the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 (particularly Clause 11.27) that relate to:*
 - o *Faulty, unsafe, or non-compliant smart meter installations;*
 - o *Health complaints, electrical surges, or equipment damage reported by consumers.*
- *Any communications or reports shared with the Ministry of Health, MBIE, or WorkSafe regarding consumer health complaints, risk mitigation, or EMF safety standards applied to smart meter installations.*

These parts of your request are refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information does not exist.

- *Records of any public enquiries, complaints or dispute cases received by the Electricity Authority from consumers claiming health symptoms following smart meter installation, including the nature, status, and resolution of each case.*

As we have not received a refinement for this part of the request, we are refusing it under section 18(f) of the Act, as it would require substantial collation and research in order to enable us to respond. We frequently correspond with consumers on a wide variety of issues. As your request was not for a set time period, going through records to determine what may be in scope would take substantial time and effort.

Under section 18A(1), we have also considered whether fixing a charge or extending the time limit would enable us to respond. However, in this instance, we do not believe this would assist us able to enable us to respond.

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.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, the Electricity Authority may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All personal data, including your name and contact details, will be removed before publication.

If you'd like to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact us by emailing oia@ea.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā,



Airihī Mahuika
GM Legal, Monitoring and Compliance