

7 November 2025

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Tēnā koe

### Your request

Thank you for your request, received on 11 October 2025, under the Official Information Act 1982 (Act) for the following information:

*Any internal briefings, policy advice, or technical assessments generated by the Electricity Authority (or interagency correspondence with the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment, Ministry of Health, Privacy Commissioner, or other relevant bodies) since 1 January 2024 regarding the MIND Act, including:*

*Assessments of its implications for NZ electricity infrastructure privacy standards or neurotechnology regulation (e.g., potential impacts on smart meter data security or EMF exposure limits).*

*Discussions on adopting similar safeguards for neural data in NZ (e.g., consent requirements for data collection via smart meters or other networked devices, or enhanced security protocols for neurotech integration).*

*Records of any studies, reports, or consultations commissioned or undertaken by the Electricity Authority aimed at investigating privacy risks, health effects, or technical standards for neural data collection via neurotech in relation to electricity infrastructure, including summaries and findings (2015–2025). This includes any evaluations of smart meter or 5G network interactions with neurotech devices.*

*Any advice papers or risk evaluations on the integration of neural data technologies with existing NZ electricity infrastructure (e.g., smart meters, 5G-enabled grids), including cost-benefit analyses or comparative risks to consumer privacy and health under NZS 2772.1:1999 or related standards.*

*Copies of correspondence between the Electricity Authority and US counterparts (e.g., FTC, relevant energy regulators) or international bodies (e.g., International Electrotechnical Commission, Five Eyes partners) relating to the MIND Act or global neural data governance in the context of electricity networks.*

### Our response

Your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act, as the information is not held by the Electricity Authority Te Mana Hiko (Authority). Note that the Authority regulates meter accuracy and certification, not non-ionising radiation. The Authority is not a scientific body, and we do not conduct our own scientific research into the matters you have outlined.

There are resources online that may be of interest to you, such as this Ministry of Health report, linked on the Authority's website: [Interagency Committee on the Health Effects of Non-ionising Fields: Report to Ministers 2018](#)

More information on non-ionising fields can be found on the Health New Zealand website: <https://www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/health-services-and-programmes/environmental-health/non-ionising-radiation>.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, the 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 [oa@ea.govt.nz](mailto:oa@ea.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Airihi Mahuika', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Airihi Mahuika  
**GM Legal, Monitoring and Compliance**