

# Australia and New Zealand Government Responses

## WHO Seminar

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Dr David Black MBChB FAFOM MARPS  
Senior Lecturer  
Department of Medicine  
University of Auckland



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# Australia and New Zealand

- Separate countries
- British Commonwealth law
- Longstanding use of RF
  - Pioneering applications
  - Extensive radio and television
  - Land mobile radio telephones
  - GSM, AMPS & CDMA mobile telephones



# First Australian Standard

- Standards Australia 1985
- To some extent politically driven
  - Mix of IRPA and IEEE
  - Used term ALARA
  - Ongoing review, later with NZ
- Replaced with interim standard 1998
  - Expired 1999

# New Zealand Standard

- Adoption of Australian Standard 1990
- Immediate review, later with Australia
- Replaced by interim joint Australian Standard 1998
  - Expired 1999
- Reviewed New Zealand Standard in 1999
  - Still current
  - Based on ICNIRP
  - Includes precautionary approach Section 10



# New Australian Standard

- Developed ARPANSA
- Based on ICNIRP
- Detailed rationale
- Literature review since ICNIRP
- Includes precautionary requirement
  - Similar to New Zealand



# Guidelines, Policies and Advice

## New Zealand

- MOH/MFE Towards Guidelines Document
- Interagency committee
  - <http://www.nrl.moh.govt.nz/Publications.html>

## Australia

- ACIF code recently reviewed
- Applies only to communications
  - [http://www.arpana.gov.au/rf\\_standard.htm](http://www.arpana.gov.au/rf_standard.htm)



# Testing and Measurement

## Australia

- Mandatory for all sites
- Prediction using software
- Site folder required
- Often use spectrum analysers

## New Zealand

- Not mandatory
- Use model sites for examples
- Sample measurements taken
- Usually use broadband radiometer



# Cases and Laws

## Covered by Environment Laws and Courts

- In Australia - State Law
- In New Zealand - Resource Management Act
  - Based on effects
  - Often triggered by other planning issues eg height



## Shirley Case (NZ)

- Should comply with Standard
- Lower arbitrary thresholds not supported
- Effects of low probability high potential impact not triggered
- Precautionary approach not a legal requirement of Act



# Summary

- Standards are stable and well understood.
- Environment Court cases clear and settled.
- Strict compliance required in Australia
- Good practice required in New Zealand
- Still some legal challenges in Australia, but less Environment Court Cases in New Zealand now rarely reach Court.



# Thank you for your attention

Dr David Black FAFOM  
Senior Lecturer in Medicine  
University of Auckland  
Tel 373 8783 Fax 303 5977

Email [d.black@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.black@auckland.ac.nz)

Consulting Member ICNIRP

Member ICES SCC28

Member IEEE Committee on Man and Radiation (COMAR)

Contributing author of NZ and Australian Radiofrequency Standards

Member of Australasian Radiation Protection Society

Member Royal Society of New Zealand



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