



Hon. Dr Ayesha Verrall
Minister of Health
Private Bag 18888
Parliament Buildings
Wellington 6160
11.2.2023

Dear Dr Verrall

Congratulations on your appointment as the new Minister of Health.

We would like to bring to your attention that, in his role as a member of the Interagency Committee on the Health Effects of Non-Ionising Fields (overseen by your Ministry), **Mr Martin Gledhill** has a serious Conflict of Interest.

We are aware that Mr Gledhill has set up a company, *EMF Services*. Among the list of clients on its website is the Ministry of Health, as well as all major companies from the telecommunications industry.

We consider that the relationship between *EMF Services* and the telecommunications industry compromises Mr Gledhill's ability to provide independent, unbiased advice to the Ministry of Health concerning the safety and interests of the New Zealand public.

There are literally thousands of conflicting, peer-reviewed research studies regarding the health effects of non-ionising fields/radiation. We understand that Mr Gledhill has taken a leading role in deciding which studies should be brought to the attention of the Committee, in addition to writing the Minutes of the twice-yearly committee meetings and submitting them to the Ministry of Health. Each time he concludes that nothing needs to change regarding the 'allowable limit' of wireless radiation.

Given that Mr Gledhill's company, *EMF Services*, has a commercial relationship with all of New Zealand's telecommunications companies, we consider this to be particularly inappropriate.

We note that, on his company's website, there is a list of ways in which Mr Gledhill attempts to manage Conflicts of Interest. However, we consider these measures to be totally inadequate, given that telecommunications companies are on his company's list of clients. It is stated that he does not accept gifts, promises of future benefits, etc., from these companies, but this does not alter the fact that these companies are clients paying for services provided by Mr Gledhill's company.

The committee has an extremely important role in advising the Ministry of Health regarding the levels of microwave frequency, non-ionising radiation to which the New Zealand public is exposed.

Therefore, we request that you remove Mr Gledhill from this committee immediately and notify us accordingly within twenty working days. Please send your reply to STinfo@proton.me

Respectfully,

The Steering committee of **Safer Tech NZ**
Anthea Grob, Chair of **SAFE ICT** (Wellington)
Michael Fleck for **WAET** (Waiheke Action for Ethical Technology)

cc Sue Grey, Legal Council for **Safer Tech NZ**
cc Dr Diana Sarfati, Director General of Health
cc Deborah Woodley, Deputy Director-General, Population Health and Prevention and
Administrator for Interagency Committee on the Health Effects of Non-Ionising Fields
cc Martin Gledhill, EMF Services