



Australian Government
Radiation Health Committee

18 July 2007

Agenda Item 2.4: Standard for Exposure Limits for Electric and Magnetic Fields (0Hz - 3kHz)

Decision

The Radiation Health Committee:

- Considered the report of the ELF Standard Working Group and reviewed progress in development of the draft Standard.
- Noted that a public consultation period had been held and that 64 submissions had been received and were being reviewed by the Working Group, and that this work would continue over several months.
- Supported the changes proposed at this stage by the Working Group, including:
 - Changing the Title to “Limits and Precautionary Measures for Reducing Exposure to Electric and Magnetic Fields – 0Hz to 3kHz”.
 - Removing the “controlled activity” provisions for magnetic field exposure from the draft.
 - Amending Table 3 to provide that the Magnetic Field Reference Levels for the head become 1,500 μ T (occupational) and 300 μ T (general public). These figures are supported by the science and modelling to protect from established effects.
 - Amending Table 4 to provide that the Reference Levels for Controlled Circumstances become 20kV/m (occupational) and 10 kV/m (public) in situations where the possibility of indirect hazard has been removed and signage is placed in appropriate locations.
 - Strengthening precautionary statements in the Standard.
- Noted that the next Working Group meeting was to be held on 13 August, where the main items to be discussed included the submissions on MRI, reviewing the statements on epidemiology, and strengthening the precautionary statements in the Standard.
- Agreed that the Working Group will report again on further progress to the November meeting of the Committee.