



**National Emergency  
Management Agency**  
Te Rākau Whakamarumarū

The following item is no longer current:

**Direction of the Director and National Controller Civil Defence Emergency Management to CDEM Groups in relation to Tsunami alert testing**

The Directions issued by the Director Civil Defence Emergency Management and National Controller under the State of National Emergency ceased to have effect at the time the State of National Emergency lapsed.

The Director Civil Defence Emergency Management and National Recovery Manager has issued a new Requirement under sections 9(2)(ba), and 94N of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002, and clause 29 and Part 9 of the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan:

*Requirements of the Director Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) and National Recovery Manager for CDEM Groups, Group Controllers and Group Recovery Managers for the duration of the COVID-19 national transition period*



**Direction of the Director and National Controller Civil Defence  
Emergency Management to CDEM Groups in relation to Tsunami alert  
testing**

**Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002**

On the 25 March 2020, the Minister of Civil Defence declared a state of national emergency under Section 66 of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act.

This allows the use of powers by the Director and National Controller in accordance with sections 9 and Part 5 of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 (CDEM Act), and the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan Order 2015, for the purposes of managing the COVID-19 emergency and preventing its exacerbation.

***Direction to stop any activity that may substantially contribute to an emergency***

Under sections 9(2)(b) and 91(1)(a) of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002, I, Sarah Stuart-Black, Director and National Controller Civil Defence Emergency Management, direct:

- A. All CDEM Groups to stop any and all plans to test tsunami warning systems during the state of national emergency declared in relation to COVID-19. CDEM Groups must not test their tsunami warning systems while the state of national emergency remains in force.

I am of the opinion that testing a tsunami warning system may substantially contribute to the COVID-19 emergency by confusing the Government's Alert Level 4 instructions, causing people to move beyond their self-isolation 'bubbles', and potentially causing people to congregate in open places e.g. on evacuation routes.

In doing so, testing a tsunami warning system may also lead to individuals breaching the orders issued by the Director-General of Health under sections 70(f) and 70(m) of the Health Act on 3 April 2020 and 25 March 2020 (respectively).

A person commits an offence who intentionally fails to comply with a direction given under section 91 of the CDEM Act 2002.

This Direction takes effect from 1400hrs on Saturday 04 April 2020 and remains in force until further notice.

Dated 04 April 2020.

Sarah Stuart-Black

Director Civil Defence Emergency Management  
National Controller Civil Defence Emergency Management