

**Antonio Gill**



0000129100

Smart Meter Generic  
Investigation  
E-00000C-11-0328

ORIGINAL

From: Sunday, August 26, 2011 5:01 PM  
Sent: Newman-Web; Burns-Web; Pierce-Web; Stump-Web; Kennedy-Web  
To: Steve Pierce; Karen Fann; Andy Tobin; web.bos.district1@co.yavapai.az.us; web.bos.district2@co.yavapai.az.us;  
Cc: web.bos.district3@co.yavapai.az.us; Barbara Little; Cliff Hamilton; Dan McKilroy; Dennis Rayner; Mark Dinunzio; Mike Ward; Rob Adams  
Subject: smart commissioners needed, not "smart meters"

RECEIVED  
DOCKETED  
2011 AUG 29 P 1:21  
AUG 29 2011

Commissioners;

DOCKETED BY [Signature]  
ALL CORP COMMISSIONER  
DOCKET CONTROL

I will be printing this email and including it with my complaint against APS. I am both emailing and mailing because there are live links in this email that you desperately need to click on to educate yourselves on the so-called -- and very misleadingly named -- "smart meters".

Along with this email and complaint form, I will be mailing in my initial letter to APS which informed them they do not have my consent to use my home's wiring for any purpose. I am also mailing their arrogant and inherently threatening reply.

In a two page letter sent August 5th to APS I made it quite clear and in no uncertain terms that APS did not have my permission or consent to install a surveillance device (AKA "smart" meter) at my house. I made clear that my home's wiring was my own and APS would be guilty of trespass if they used my wiring for any purpose whatever.

APS replied in a letter dated August 22nd. As you can see from their letter, APS spent a whole paragraph telling me how "safe" and "secure" my information would be with them. Inherent in telling me this is obviously the assumption that APS has some right to my information in the first place. Since collecting my information will involve using my wiring (my property), and since APS does not have my permission to use my property, APS is either very mistaken or is blatantly intent on committing illegal surveillance and the crime of trespassing on my property to obtain information to which they are not welcome.

APS spent another paragraph saying how safe the RF was. While I strongly disagree with them, this is not relevant. Safe or not, APS does not have my permission to use my wiring to send over surveillance gathering RF in the first place. Again, doing so will constitute trespass.

Citing section 5.4.2. of their Terms & Conditions of Service, APS claimed the right to install a new meter but magnanimously told me they were placing my replacement on a "temporary hold". While it is true that APS has the right to install a new meter, these Terms & Conditions were written by them and agreed to by me when "new meter" meant new *analog* meter. It did not mean a meter that also doubled as a trespassing surveillance device. I have placed a permanent hold on APS installing a surveillance device on my house. No meters with surveillance capabilities that make use of my wiring are permitted at my house.

APS closed by telling me they looked forward "to working together in the future to identify a mutually satisfactory solution". APS' satisfaction is not my concern. APS' satisfaction shall be

confined to whether or not I pay my bill. *My* concern are APS' threats of criminal trespass and unauthorized surveillance. The question for the Commission is just what exactly does the Commission intend to do about these criminal threats? Will you be a co-conspirator in criminal activity or will you serve the public and rein in a rogue power company?

I read the docket in which previous Commissioners approved the misleadingly named "smart meters" for use by electricity providers in Arizona.

Nowhere in the docket did I see any discussion of the blatant privacy and property violations of these new meters. Such arrogance! If you think my house's wiring is yours or APS's to use to spy on me, *Forgetaboutit!*

Nowhere in the docket did I see any discussion of the health effects of the radio frequency broadcast by the new meters throughout our homes and neighborhoods. Such ignorance! If you think my house's wiring is yours or APS's to pulse radio frequencies on a 24/7/365 basis, *Dream on!*

We do not need "smart" meters. We need smart Commissioners. You need to smarten up and *now*.

First, get real clear on the following basic points:

- APS does not have the right to attach a surveillance device to my house.
- You do not have the right to tell APS they can attach a surveillance device to my house.
- My home's wiring is not APS' property.
- My home's wiring is not your property.
- My home's wiring is my property.
- APS does not have my permission or consent to send a radio signal over my wiring.
- APS does not have my permission or consent to use my wiring -- my private property -- for any purpose whatsoever.
- You do not have my permission or consent, or any right whatever, to tell APS they can use my wiring -- my private property -- for any purpose whatsoever.
- Any use of my home's wiring that is not authorized by me, the owner, will be considered criminal trespass.

Now, educate yourselves. There are only two ways in which these meters might be called smart. They will spy on us night and day and keep a dairy of our electrical use categorized by appliance type, and they have the ability to shut off or otherwise control any "smart appliance" we may have. If we don't have any of those right now I can foresee the time when they will be mandated. The California Public Utilities Commission has already done just that.

Every 40 seconds, so-called "smart meters" will send a signal over our houses' wiring. So they are constantly transmitting pulsed microwave radiation, an environmental toxin and carcinogen. A chip inside the meter can read the signal when it returns after searching our homes for any

electrical use. The chip can distinguish exactly what appliance is being used and when.

Example:

electric toothbrush used from 11 pm to 11:02

bathroom fan used from 11pm to 11:05

two 60 watt bulbs used from 7pm to 11:07

TV used from 8pm to 10:59

corded, electric vibrator used from 11:07pm to 11:19 – Yes, it will even know that.

Collected information is sent periodically throughout the day and night via cell phone signal to the power company's data collection center. Out of cell phone reach? Then the meter will just relay the info to the next closest meter. This piggybacking will continue until cell reception is reached.

Here is a 33 minute video that you need to watch since it explains how the meter works, and its health risks and privacy violations: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLeCTaSG2-U>

-

Of course the power companies will maintain that all info is private and secure. Of course I don't believe them.

For numerous reasons, too many people will want our “lifestyle” info – what electricity consuming products we use, how much and how often, when we are home, when we are not home, etc. The meters can also read any RFID tagged items we might have at home. People interested in our information – for commercial or nefarious reasons – will be willing to pay for it or hack for it. And hacking is easy. From *Smart Meters and Security: Locking Up the Grid* (<http://www.technewsworld.com/rsstory/67791.html?wlc=1312784542>)

-

This worm replicates itself throughout smart meters once it's introduced into one meter. The IOActive worm is a rootkit that apparently lets hackers assume full system control of all exposed AMI [Advanced Metering Infrastructure] capabilities, including remote power on and off, usage reporting, and communication configurations.

Introducing the worm into a smart meter is not hard to do, Davis told TechNewsWorld. Just pluck a smart meter off the outside wall of a residence or building -- they're often connected to the structure by a simple zip tie -- then reverse engineer the software, load your own firmware onto the meter and re-connect it to the structure.

"Once you infect a meter, it can infect others," Davis said. A simulation engine he wrote showed that a neighborhood grid with 22,000 houses equipped with smart meters can get infected within 24 hours.

"Every new meter that's infected will update two others wirelessly using their peer-to-peer networking feature," Davis said. "Hackers have already been using AMI grids to send and receive data in Europe."

The power companies of course also maintain there is no health risk from this new and heightened level of radio frequency (RF) generated by both the meter itself and its pulsed signal running through our homes' wiring. Of course I don't believe them.

Dr. David Carpenter, a Harvard Medical School-trained physician who headed up the New York State Dept. of Public Health for 18 years before becoming Dean of the School of Public Health at the University of Albany, states,

“We have evidence...that exposure to radio frequency radiation...increases the risk of cancer, increases damage to the nervous system, causes electro-sensitivity, has adverse reproductive effects and a variety of other effects on different organ systems. There is no justification for the statement that Smart Meters have no adverse health effects.”

He goes on to say, “An informed person should demand that they be allowed to keep their analog meter.” You can watch his 2 minute video here:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n7L21XOC2wA&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n7L21XOC2wA&feature=player_embedded)

Carpenter is not the only one who has come to this conclusion. I am trying to be brief while still covering all the bases. Much more information, including tragic personal stories, can be found on-line. Instead of just listening to the DOE and power company propaganda, you desperately need to do some homework.

Another risk posed by these meters is fire. And if our houses burn down because the meter exploded or fried our wires, the power companies' responses have been that it is not their fault because “smart meters do not explode”. Yet in researching this issue I have read plenty of horror stories from all over the country of the meters doing just that despite the stonewalling and denials of the power companies.

In *Wireless Smart Meters and Potential for Electrical Fires* ( <http://eon3emfblog.net/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/Wireless-Smart-Meters-and-Potential-for-Electrical-Fires.pdf>

) the authors explain that the extra load placed on old household wiring by the meters can be too much for the wiring to handle.

From the U.S. Dept. of Energy propaganda quoted below ( [http://www.smartgrid.gov/the\\_smart\\_grid#smart\\_home](http://www.smartgrid.gov/the_smart_grid#smart_home)

), I can infer that in the future there will be a manufactured "need" for everyone to buy new “smart” appliances, based on regulatory decree or artificial economic incentives or both. Voluntary now, mandatory later is the usual M.O. of any government agenda. And of course, the corporate world will love that.

Smart appliances will also be able to respond to signals from your energy provider to avoid using energy during times of peak demand. [Translation: Big Brother controls your appliances] This is more complicated than a simple on and off switch. For instance, a smart air conditioner might extend its cycle time slightly to reduce its load on the grid; while not noticeable to you, millions of air conditioners acting the same way could significantly reduce the load on the power grid. Likewise, a smart refrigerator could defer its defrost cycle until off-peak hours, or a smart dishwasher might defer running until off-peak hours.

Of course, these smart appliances will include consumer controls to override the automated controls when needed. If you need to run your dishwasher right away, regardless of the cost of power, you'll be able to do so. [Oh, you want to run during peak? Fine, but it'll cost you]

With this in mind, AARP has come out against the meters:

And while you may be able to put off doing the laundry, it's harder to re-schedule the use of medical or home-cooling equipment that could mean the difference between life and death. ( <http://www.aarp.org/money/budgeting-saving/info-03-2010/smart-meters-are.html>

)

Power companies, the U.S. Dept. of Energy (which has subsidized the meters to the tune of \$3.5 BILLION), as well as a few clueless mainstream "environmental" organizations – The Sierra Club, The Environmental Defense Fund, and the Natural Resources Defense Council – support these meters in the name of energy efficiency. However, efficiency at the price of health and the Bill of Rights is no "efficiency" at all. I am not consenting to it and neither should you. Besides, some researchers have determined that any energy savings is actually offset by the new energy demands of the so-called "smart meters" and "smart grid" themselves.

Marti Oakley, who has read all the various smart meter enabling Federal legislation – which he says are actually tax bills -- came to the conclusion the meters do not save energy. In his article, *Smart Meters: No Federal Mandate* ( <http://ppjg.wordpress.com/2011/08/15/smart-meters-no-federal-mandate/>

) he succinctly nails the entire scam:

The SMART GRID system is nothing more than a system of accelerated energy costs with accompanying tax increases. The system cannot and does not deliver more efficient use of energy and isn't meant to. The intent of the GRID and the meters is to pin energy rates to the ever fluctuating markets enabling the energy provider to charge the highest rate possible in any given period of time. Higher rates mean higher taxes. This isn't about energy conservation or any of the other nonsense put out as propaganda to foist these deadly meters upon an unsuspecting public: This is simply a business plan meant to unlawfully spy on private citizens while extorting the public for corporate profits.

*The Green Sheen Wearing Thin - How Corporate Environmental Organizations are Providing Cover for the Mounting Ecological Catastrophe of the "Smart Grid" (*

<http://stopsmartmeters.org/2011/07/26/the-green-sheen-wearing-thin-how-corporate-environmental-organizations-are-providing-cover-for-the-mounting-ecological-catastrophe-of-the-%E2%80%9Csmart-grid%E2%80%9D/>

) is a rather lengthy but interesting article written by an environmentalist who makes the same point about the lack of energy savings. He also takes to task the 3 environmental organizations I mentioned for shilling for the power companies and their new meters. One of the juicier tid-bits:

It turns out that EDF's [Environmental Defense Fund] conflicts of interest run deep. John Doerr of Woodside CA is one of the main venture capitalists backing Silver Spring Networks - the company responsible for the health damaging wireless technology in "smart" meters. He is on President Obama's Economic Recovery Advisory Board and is the 540<sup>th</sup> richest man in the world - worth approximately \$2.2 billion - ironically the same amount as PG&E's initial costs of smart meter deployment. When Obama visited the Bay Area

- in February, he (drove past our protests) and dined at Doerr's house in Woodside. This guy has connections. His wife Ann Doerr - is on the board of directors of Environmental Defense Fund. Beginning to catch on? The trail leads to the most powerful people in the country. The advisory board

- of Silver Spring Networks includes none other than Al Gore. The growing debacle of the "smart grid" must be quite an inconvenient truth.

The new meters also suffer from inaccuracy, another "impossibility" according to power companies. In fact, the power companies' spin is that your bill is now higher, not because of the new meter, but because your old meter was wrong!

Higher bills are resulting nationwide. Check out this short article (with 3 minute video) in which a packed house in Bakersfield laughs at the power company representative's pathetic spin and lies: <http://www.bakersfieldnow.com/news/63581287.html?tab=video>

- Here's a sampling:

"My bill was \$2,281, and we were gone three weeks," said Hahn, who said she's continued to see a 400 percent increase in her energy bill ever since.

Marisa Banks told a similar story. Her mother went on vacation in July, but, she said, "In that month her bill was \$873."

Something I find particularly irksome is APS preaching "efficiency" while at the same time

using our money to play at being a philanthropist. Last year they gave away \$6.7 million.

APS is a monopoly public utility. Their job is to provide electricity. Period. They have no business raising our rates while playing at – and bragging about – being a “community benefactor”.

Similarly, how can anyone make sense of a monopoly public utility spending \$5 million per year on advertising? Advertising might make sense if there were competing electricity providers in any given territory. We all know there are not.

APS claims their ads are to encourage energy efficiency (like promoting the dreadfully toxic CFL bulbs). I think APS is just trying to position itself as "green".

I spoke at length about the ad budget with the APS Propaganda Minister, or rather, the “Vice President of Communications”. He said it is cheaper to get people to cut back on electricity via ads than it is to build a new power plant. I think if APS had a product or program that really saved people money then APS would not have to spend anywhere near \$5 million to promote it. After all, I don't know of anyone who enjoys giving APS money.

Buying media can also buy a compliant media. In other words, news outlets on the receiving end of APS' \$5 million ad budget are disinclined to bite the hand that feeds them by criticizing APS or giving APS negative publicity.

And what's up with guilt-tripping residential customers about conservation and then giving a “bulk rate” to large business users? Comparing the various rates APS has posted at its website, one can see that the price per kilowatt actually gets *lower* with increased business usage but *higher* with increased residential usage. So businesses get a sweet deal for the more electricity they use, but residential customers get punished with a rate that accelerates. And shouldn't “equal protection under law” apply to *all* customers of a state regulated public monopoly?

I have been told by both an APS representative and a staffer at the Arizona Corporation Commission that the charitable donations and ad budget come out of “shareholder equity”. But let's face it; there would be no “shareholder equity” without customers who pay electric bills.

And how does anyone make sense of a company, whose mission is to serve the public, selling electricity to Mexico? Yes, believe it or not, APS sells electricity to Mexico. Of course it is claimed that it really isn't that much and has no effect on our rates. But let's think about this a minute. We are told we need to conserve energy. The so-called smart meters are propagandized as part of that effort. Yet if energy is so scarce that we have to conserve it then why is our public utility selling it to a foreign country?

When APS stops wasting money on advertising and their pet “causes”, when APS treats all customers equally and quits giving discounts to a select group of energy gluttons, when APS serves the American Public and not some foreign country's public, then we'll talk about

“efficiency”.

One more thing to consider is property values. In any community that values health and privacy, properties which do *not* have RF emitting surveillance devices attached to them will have more value than ones that do.

Lastly, watch this 4 minute video: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8JNFr\\_j6kdI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8JNFr_j6kdI)

. The speaker eloquently expounds on the property violations and Orwellian privacy intrusions inherent in the operation of these meters.

So it's time to get smart, Commissioners. If you were truly looking out for the public interest you would ban these devices in Arizona outright. At the very least their use should be voluntary. Shame, shame, shame on the previous Commission for not even making that an option when they decided the issue. You need to fix their arrogant, ignorant blunder, and you need to fix it now.

Sincerely,

Warren Woodward  
Sedona, AZ