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Petition to the Arizona Corporation Commission

Docket: E-00000C-11-0328 (Smart Meters)

We the undersigned residents of Arizona ask the Arizona Corporation Commission to make provisions to avoid harm to people with disabling neurological conditions when utilities install the new types of communicating meters. These are often broadly referred to as smart meters.

The utilities presently deploy two types of communication technologies: wireless and power line communication. Both have shown to have an unacceptable impact on some people disabled by these disorders, sometimes to the point of not being able to continue living in their own home.

People with these disorders live mostly in rural areas due to their health condition. The Arizona utilities have so far prioritized installing new meters in urban areas, but rural areas will eventually be impacted as well.

We ask the Arizona Corporation Commission to mandate the following accommodations to anyone who can provide a doctor's letter supporting their need:

1. A right to use a non-communicating utility meter, including when moving to a home that previously did not have one installed. A non-communicating meter does not communicate using wireless or power line communication. The ratepayer could be provided with a pre-printed postcard to report the monthly reading.
2. Where power line communication is used, signals can enter the household from the neighbor's meters. Thus, filters and other measures may be necessary.
3. In some cases, such as with close-by neighbors or more intrusive communication technologies, the above measures may not be sufficient. The utility must then negotiate a reasonable accommodation with the impacted person.
4. All ratepayers must receive advance notification prior to installs or upgrades of communicating meters. The letter must specify the opt-out policy in clear language. Ratepayers must be allowed thirty days to obtain a doctor's letter.

Arizona Corporation Commission

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5. This applies to all utilities in Arizona, which provide electricity, gas and/or water, regardless of ownership structure.

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Robert Arthur, Sun City, AZ
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Jared Newsom, Snowflake, AZ
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Jack Otterson, Snowflake, AZ
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Mary Wolf, Dolan Springs, AZ

Actual signatures and full mailing addresses are on file and available to the Commission upon request.

Respectfully,

Safer Utilities Network
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