

**Jennifer Ybarra**



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E-00000C-11-0328

**From:** Elizabeth Kelley [lkelly\_45@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 07, 2011 3:00 PM  
**To:** Newman-Web; Burns-Web; Kennedy-Web; Pierce-Web; Stump-Web  
**Subject:** Submission to Docket E-00000C-11-0328 on September 8, 1022 smart meter public hearing  
**Attachments:** Arizonans for Safer Utility Technology Infrastructure.Petition.7SEPT11.WORD03.pdf

**ORIGINAL**

**Importance:** High

Dear Comissioners, Arizona Corporation Commission

Submission to Docket #E-00000C-11-0328.

Thank you for scheduling a public hearing on the smart grid and smart meters, which we understand has been scheduled for 10 AM Thursday, September 8, 2011 at AZCC's offices in Phoenix.

Here attached is a petition we prepared, signed by over 70 Arizonans, regarding issues of concern regarding our health, safety, privacy and pocketbook related to the utility smart meters that serve as the intelligent endpoint of the national smart grid.

Many of us plan to attend this hearing and we reserve the right to testify in person at that time. We know we are representing thousands of Arizonans in signing this petition and attending this hearing.

We hope you will give this petition, our verbal comments and other submissions seriously and will and will take action to make decisions within your powers to do so accordingly.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Kelley, MHA  
Co-Coordinator, Arizonans for Safer Utility Infrastructure  
Tucson, AZ

Director, Electromagnetic Safety Alliance, Inc.  
[www.electromagneticsafety.org](http://www.electromagneticsafety.org)

Arizona Corporation Commission

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September 7, 2011

To: Commissioners, Arizona Corporation Commission

Re: Docket E-00000C-11-0328., September 8, 2011  
Public Hearing on the Smart Grid and Smart Meters

From: Arizonans for Safer Utility Infrastructure

### **Petition from Arizonans for Safer Utility Technology Infrastructure**

We, the undersigned, call upon the Arizona State Legislature and the Arizona Corporation Commission to take immediate action to address growing concerns by the general public about the installation of wireless smart meters on homes and businesses that are being used to transmit electricity, gas and water utilization data to the utility, whether investor owned or municipally owned and operated. We are also concerned about the increasing proliferation of wireless communications antenna arrays that support wireless broadband communications technologies in the state of Arizona. We call for open, public hearings so that our concerns can be heard and discussed in a public forum and decisions can be made that serve the public interest.

On May 31, 2011, the WHO/International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classified radiofrequency electromagnetic fields as possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B), based on an increased risk for glioma, a malignant type of brain cancer<sup>1</sup>, associated with wireless phone use. This follows on the classification of extremely low frequency electromagnetic fields in 2002 by the WHO/International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) as being possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B) based on a link between childhood leukemia and power lines. These determinations change the debate from "whether artificial electromagnetic fields are safe", to "What can we do to make EMF emitting technologies safer?"

People across the country and worldwide are reporting problems caused by the mandatory siting of wireless smart meters and other wireless antennas near their homes, schools and workplaces. The common concerns being raised about wireless smart meters are personal health, privacy, erroneous bills, rate hikes, cyber security, and fire and, job loss for manual meter readers. We are particularly concerned about the potential for adverse health effects related to chronic, involuntary exposure to electromagnetic radiation. We understand there is no public oversight by the federal or state government to assure the public is protected from harm and that local control over siting and management of wireless antennas has been preempted by the Federal Communications Commission.

We are concerned about protecting the environment and conserving natural resources but do not agree with the marketing message that smart meters will result in increased energy conservation nor that they will create a more sustainable world with more reliance on renewable energy sources. In fact, some projections indicate increased energy demand to support more and more wireless transmitters. For some people, certain models of wired smart meters may be workable. For others, total opt out (meaning no electric utilities) is the only choice. We request there be a public dialogue about changes in utility metering that take into account the issues we raise aimed at finding solutions that work for all.

Meanwhile, we advocate use of safer meters or continuation of existing meters. We do not believe that use of wireless signals to transmit utility data from the subscriber location to the utility offers a "greener" solution than use of use of wired smart meters that use phone lines, and fiber optic cables. Use of existing meters or new wired metering options, with the exception of use of power lines for transmission which some experts object to for power quality reasons, offer a safer, more reliable solution that is less vulnerable to privacy or cyber security breaches.

We recommend you consider taking the following action steps to protect the health, welfare and privacy of those who live and work in the state from exposure to electromagnetic radiation, particularly children, pregnant women, the unborn and persons with damaged immune systems, electromagnetic hypersensitivity, surgically implanted metal devices or other functional impairments that make them particularly at risk to electromagnetic radiation exposure:

Therefore, we urge the Arizona State Legislature and the Arizona Corporation Commission to consider the following recommendations:

1. Impose a moratorium on new smart meter installations in order to review the potential health risks of smart meters, other issues like privacy, erroneous bills and cyber security, and hold public hearings to permit state residents the opportunity to present their concerns in public forum. Explore alternative means of transmitting data, including the use of utility meters that can be read on site, transmit data through wires or, function as wired pre-paid meters.
2. We ask the Arizona State Legislature to direct the State Department of Health to conduct a health and safety review of the current wireless communications infrastructure to ensure FCC safety limits are not being exceeded and to predict how much radio frequency radiation emissions would be added to the infrastructure through installation of the emerging 4<sup>th</sup> generation broadband infrastructure and more proprietary antennas dedicated to smart meter data transmissions.
3. We ask that the Arizona State Legislature undertake a review of the developing smart grid infrastructure by all utilities in the state, both public and investor owned to obtain full disclosure of the EMF emissions of smart meter devices and transmitting antennas; a review of wired alternatives to wireless communications for smart meter data transmission, e.g. some utility companies are selecting a fixed wired systems for data transmission; and, a review of how utility companies are responding to concerns about potential adverse health effects and privacy.
4. Request that State Attorney General undertake an investigation of the utility companies that would include a subpoena of all records related to consumer complaints, especially actual or anticipated health problems related to smart meters, including phone conversations, correspondence, and contacts with customers, including site visits; and, related issues, such as cost effectiveness, right-to-privacy, accurate billing and, ensure full public disclosure of the goals set by the purveyors of smart meter technologies.
5. Require electrical, gas and water utilities in the state, that have already selected smart meters for data transmission, to adopt an "opt out" policy alternative for any customer as a matter of right.
6. Request that the existing analog meters not be disposed of by each utility and that they be securely stored by the utility company until this matter is satisfactorily resolved.
7. Ask the U.S. Congress to repeal section 704 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 to restore state control over antenna siting and management, and repeal other provisions that establish the

FCC human exposure guidelines as the "law of the land" until these guidelines are subjected to an independent scientific review and, that give liability protection to manufacturers and service providers.

8. Ask the U.S. Congress to enact legislation to authorize a sustained federally sponsored, independent EMF research program that is interdisciplinary, draws upon the expert resources in the federal public health agencies and the federal agencies who manage applications of the EMF spectrum and require the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to accelerate the completion of its toxicological review of radiofrequency radiation science to determine whether it is an environmental toxin. A potential source of funding for such a program could be the Universal Service Fund maintained by the Federal Communications Commission.

9. Ask U.S. President Obama to balance his promotion of a national wireless broadband infrastructure with an independent and comprehensive review of the scientific evidence that shows there may be serious and irreversible damage to human health and the environment due to technological innovations that use electromagnetic radiation.

10. Ask U.S. President Obama to ensure that the wireless communications standards currently under development by the U.S. National Standards and Technology Administration to support Smart Grid Wireless Broadband requirements undergo transparent consideration by the experts in the federal public health agencies and by the general public prior to implementation and take into account recommendations by the National Academy of Sciences 2008 report, *Identification of Research Needs Relating to Potential Biological or Adverse Health Effects of Wireless Communication* [http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12036](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12036).

Signed:

Yvette Arata, Tucson AZ

Robert Arthur, Sun City, AZ

Lena Baker, Tucson, AZ

Ariel Barfield, PhD., Tucson, AZ

Michael Barfield, Tucson, AZ

Susan L. Benson, Tucson, AZ

Leon Byerley, Tucson, AZ

Roberta Carichner, Tucson, AZ

Michael Chechel, Tucson, AZ

Greg Conrad, Snowflake, AZ

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Eileen Davis, Prescott, AZ

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Larry Day, Tucson, AZ  
Gayle Ebersole, Phoenix, AZ  
Diane Ensign, Tucson, AZ  
Howard Gardner, Oro Valley, AZ  
Marjean Gardner, Oro Valley, AZ  
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For more information, go to [www.electromagneticsafety.org](http://www.electromagneticsafety.org).