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Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

MAR 13 2012

RE: Docket No. E-00000C-11-0328

Dear Commissioners;

DOCKETED BY 

The list of proposed guidelines for the use of all meters by electric utilities and for any data obtained from their use, supposes a mandate for the installation of Time-based Metering and communications in the State of Arizona. Was a mandate ever issued by the Arizona Corporation Commission for the installation of "Smart" meters by the electric utility companies operating in Arizona? I can not find in the United States Public Law any mandate for their installation. PUBLIC LAW 109-58-Aug. 8, 2005 119 Stat. 963, Sec. 1252. SMART METERING, Sec. 1252 (a) (14) TIME-BASED METERING AND COMMUNICATIONS.-(A) Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph, each electric utility shall offer each of its customer classes, and provide individual customers upon customer request, a time-based rate schedule under which the rate charge by the electric utility varies during different time periods and reflects the variance..." Since the law went into effect August 8, 2005, and during the timeframe shown in the law, as customers, we have yet to be offered a copy of the rate schedule that would be required, as described in the law. (See Exhibit "A" "PUBLIC LAW 109-58-Aug. 8, 2005 119 Stat. 963, Sec. 1252. SMART METERING, Sec. 1252")

The question arises, has the Arizona Corporate Commission followed the directive outlined in the "Energy Policy Act of 2005" as written in PUBLIC LAW 109-58-Aug. 8, 2005 119 Stat. 963, Sec. 1252. SMART METERING, (b) (i) TIME-BASED METERING AND COMMUNICATIONS, ..."Each State regulatory authority shall conduct an investigation and issue a decision whether or not it is appropriate for electric utilities to provide and install time-based meters and communications devices for each of their customers which enable such customers to participate in time-based pricing rate schedules and other demand response programs."?

There is no mandate requiring the installation of time-based metering and communications, by law. (See Exhibit "E", "Smart Meters: No Federal Mandate."), and understanding that these devices are used primarily for surveillance for the purpose of gathering personal information of the individual customers, as well as determining electrical demand of a household or a business, then strict oversight by the Corporate Commission must be maintained. Security of information obtained must be used solely for determining generation load demand and nothing else. There is another serious problem, that of Radio Frequency (RF) effects on the human body, which has been declared by the World Health Organization as a C-B2 carcinogen. (See Exhibit "B", "IARC Classifies Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields as Possibly Carcinogenic to Humans.")

Our comments concerning the Proposed Meter Guidelines are as follows:

1. "Measurement will not be specific to any particular appliance or electrical device, unless approved by the Commission for a specific tariff."

With current and future technology that has been or will be installed in future appliances, the ability for recording appliance usage through the use of "Smart" meters is possible. The ability of the utility company for information mining of its customers then creates a problem of privacy. Computer chips in appliances can be read by the utility's computers, which then can terminate service to that specific appliance without the customer's knowledge. (See Exhibit "C", "Smart Meter is Watching You.", and Exhibit "D" "Researchers find smart meters could reveal favorite TV Shows.")

2. "The utility will not share energy usage data except with its authorized agent. Individual or aggregate usage data will never be sold."

Who are the authorized agents? Can it be guaranteed that the data will never be released or that it can not be hacked into? (See Exhibit "D" "researchers find smart meters could reveal favorite TV Shows.")

3. "All information transmitted between meters and utility must be encrypted and password protected US government approved and recommended standards."

There are some questions that must be asked in this area. The information will be transmitted via radio signal to a receiver and then transmitted on to the utility's computer. Any radio signal can be intercepted. How will the utilities address the encryption from the meter to the company's receivers? Has the encryption system been tested? How often will the meters transmit the information during a 24 hour period? There are hackers who with the right radio receivers and computers who can hack into any system, and since the signal being sent is omnidirectional, the safeguarding of information will be difficult. In the 100 page report by the Sage Associates, of Santa Barbara, CA, on January 1, 2011, they found potential FCC violations of public safety standards for smart meters and collector meters. (See Exhibit "K", "Summary of findings.")

4. "Data from each meter must use specific unique identifiers associated with the customer's meter number and service address to ensure that each customer is billed only for his/her own usage."

There is still a security issue here, as an individual with the right knowledge might be able to hack the system and change usage amounts and/or change the identifier on a customer creating havoc with the system itself. Has this been thoroughly tested?

5. "The utility will not control or shut off individual appliances without customer consent based on approved ACC tariff."

There have been reports of appliance malfunctioning since the installation of "Smart" meters. How will this be corrected and will the utility companies warrant repairs or replacement of "Smart" appliances due to problems with RF interference? Has this been addressed? (See Exhibit "H", "Levitt/Lai Study.")

SEC. 1252 SMART METERING

E00000C-11-0328

PUBLIC LAW 109-58—AUG. 8, 2005

119 STAT. 963

(b) COMPLIANCE.—

(1) TIME LIMITATIONS.—Section 112(b) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following: Deadlines.

“(3)(A) Not later than 2 years after the enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory authority (with respect to each electric utility for which it has ratemaking authority) and each nonregulated electric utility shall commence the consideration referred to in section 111, or set a hearing date for such consideration, with respect to each standard established by paragraphs (11) through (13) of section 111(d).

“(B) Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory authority (with respect to each electric utility for which it has ratemaking authority), and each nonregulated electric utility, shall complete the consideration, and shall make the determination, referred to in section 111 with respect to each standard established by paragraphs (11) through (13) of section 111(d).”

(2) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—Section 112(c) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following: “In the case of each standard established by paragraphs (11) through (13) of section 111(d), the reference contained in this subsection to the date of enactment of this Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the date of enactment of such paragraphs (11) through (13).”

(3) PRIOR STATE ACTIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 112 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) PRIOR STATE ACTIONS.—Subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall not apply to the standards established by paragraphs (11) through (13) of section 111(d) in the case of any electric utility in a State if, before the enactment of this subsection—

“(1) the State has implemented for such utility the standard concerned (or a comparable standard);

“(2) the State regulatory authority for such State or relevant nonregulated electric utility has conducted a proceeding to consider implementation of the standard concerned (or a comparable standard) for such utility; or

“(3) the State legislature has voted on the implementation of such standard (or a comparable standard) for such utility.”

(B) CROSS REFERENCE.—Section 124 of such Act (16 U.S.C. 2634) is amended by adding the following at the end thereof: “In the case of each standard established by paragraphs (11) through (13) of section 111(d), the reference contained in this subsection to the date of enactment of this Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the date of enactment of such paragraphs (11) through (13).”

SEC. 1252. SMART METERING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 111(d) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2621(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(14) TIME-BASED METERING AND COMMUNICATIONS.—(A) Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph, each electric utility shall offer each of its customer Deadline.

classes, and provide individual customers upon customer request, a time-based rate schedule under which the rate charged by the electric utility varies during different time periods and reflects the variance, if any, in the utility's costs of generating and purchasing electricity at the wholesale level. The time-based rate schedule shall enable the electric consumer to manage energy use and cost through advanced metering and communications technology.

"(B) The types of time-based rate schedules that may be offered under the schedule referred to in subparagraph (A) include, among others—

"(i) time-of-use pricing whereby electricity prices are set for a specific time period on an advance or forward basis, typically not changing more often than twice a year, based on the utility's cost of generating and/or purchasing such electricity at the wholesale level for the benefit of the consumer. Prices paid for energy consumed during these periods shall be pre-established and known to consumers in advance of such consumption, allowing them to vary their demand and usage in response to such prices and manage their energy costs by shifting usage to a lower cost period or reducing their consumption overall;

"(ii) critical peak pricing whereby time-of-use prices are in effect except for certain peak days, when prices may reflect the costs of generating and/or purchasing electricity at the wholesale level and when consumers may receive additional discounts for reducing peak period energy consumption;

"(iii) real-time pricing whereby electricity prices are set for a specific time period on an advanced or forward basis, reflecting the utility's cost of generating and/or purchasing electricity at the wholesale level, and may change as often as hourly; and

"(iv) credits for consumers with large loads who enter into pre-established peak load reduction agreements that reduce a utility's planned capacity obligations.

"(C) Each electric utility subject to subparagraph (A) shall provide each customer requesting a time-based rate with a time-based meter capable of enabling the utility and customer to offer and receive such rate, respectively.

"(D) For purposes of implementing this paragraph, any reference contained in this section to the date of enactment of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 shall be deemed to be a reference to the date of enactment of this paragraph.

"(E) In a State that permits third-party marketers to sell electric energy to retail electric consumers, such consumers shall be entitled to receive the same time-based metering and communications device and service as a retail electric consumer of the electric utility.

Deadline.

"(F) Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c) of section 112, each State regulatory authority shall, not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph conduct an investigation in accordance with section 115(i) and issue a decision whether it is appropriate to implement the standards set out in subparagraphs (A) and (C)."

(b) STATE INVESTIGATION OF DEMAND RESPONSE AND TIME-BASED METERING.—Section 115 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2625) is amended as follows:

(1) By inserting in subsection (b) after the phrase “the standard for time-of-day rates established by section 111(d)(3)” the following: “and the standard for time-based metering and communications established by section 111(d)(14)”.

(2) By inserting in subsection (b) after the phrase “are likely to exceed the metering” the following: “and communications”.

(3) By adding at the end the following:

“(i) TIME-BASED METERING AND COMMUNICATIONS.—In making a determination with respect to the standard established by section 111(d)(14), the investigation requirement of section 111(d)(14)(F) shall be as follows: Each State regulatory authority shall conduct an investigation and issue a decision whether or not it is appropriate for electric utilities to provide and install time-based meters and communications devices for each of their customers which enable such customers to participate in time-based pricing rate schedules and other demand response programs.”

*

(c) FEDERAL ASSISTANCE ON DEMAND RESPONSE.—Section 132(a) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2642(a)) is amended by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (3), striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting “; and”, and by adding the following at the end thereof:

“(5) technologies, techniques, and rate-making methods related to advanced metering and communications and the use of these technologies, techniques and methods in demand response programs.”

(d) FEDERAL GUIDANCE.—Section 132 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2642) is amended by adding the following at the end thereof:

“(d) DEMAND RESPONSE.—The Secretary shall be responsible for—

“(1) educating consumers on the availability, advantages, and benefits of advanced metering and communications technologies, including the funding of demonstration or pilot projects;

“(2) working with States, utilities, other energy providers and advanced metering and communications experts to identify and address barriers to the adoption of demand response programs; and

“(3) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, providing Congress with a report that identifies and quantifies the national benefits of demand response and makes a recommendation on achieving specific levels of such benefits by January 1, 2007.”

Deadline. Reports.

(e) DEMAND RESPONSE AND REGIONAL COORDINATION.—

16 USC 2642 note.

(1) IN GENERAL.—It is the policy of the United States to encourage States to coordinate, on a regional basis, State energy policies to provide reliable and affordable demand response services to the public.

(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to States and regional organizations formed by two or more States to assist them in—

(A) identifying the areas with the greatest demand response potential;

(B) identifying and resolving problems in transmission and distribution networks, including through the use of demand response;

(C) developing plans and programs to use demand response to respond to peak demand or emergency needs; and

(D) identifying specific measures consumers can take to participate in these demand response programs.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, the Commission shall prepare and publish an annual report, by appropriate region, that assesses demand response resources, including those available from all consumer classes, and which identifies and reviews—

(A) saturation and penetration rate of advanced meters and communications technologies, devices and systems;

(B) existing demand response programs and time-based rate programs;

(C) the annual resource contribution of demand resources;

(D) the potential for demand response as a quantifiable, reliable resource for regional planning purposes;

(E) steps taken to ensure that, in regional transmission planning and operations, demand resources are provided equitable treatment as a quantifiable, reliable resource relative to the resource obligations of any load-serving entity, transmission provider, or transmitting party; and

(F) regulatory barriers to improve customer participation in demand response, peak reduction and critical period pricing programs.

(f) FEDERAL ENCOURAGEMENT OF DEMAND RESPONSE DEVICES.—It is the policy of the United States that time-based pricing and other forms of demand response, whereby electricity customers are provided with electricity price signals and the ability to benefit by responding to them, shall be encouraged, the deployment of such technology and devices that enable electricity customers to participate in such pricing and demand response systems shall be facilitated, and unnecessary barriers to demand response participation in energy, capacity and ancillary service markets shall be eliminated. It is further the policy of the United States that the benefits of such demand response that accrue to those not deploying such technology and devices, but who are part of the same regional electricity entity, shall be recognized.

Deadlines.

(g) TIME LIMITATIONS.—Section 112(b) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4)(A) Not later than 1 year after the enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory authority (with respect to each electric utility for which it has ratemaking authority) and each nonregulated electric utility shall commence the consideration referred to in section 111, or set a hearing date for such consideration, with respect to the standard established by paragraph (14) of section 111(d).

“(B) Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory authority (with respect to each electric utility for which it has ratemaking authority),

and each nonregulated electric utility, shall complete the consideration, and shall make the determination, referred to in section 111 with respect to the standard established by paragraph (14) of section 111(d).”

(h) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—Section 112(c) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“In the case of the standard established by paragraph (14) of section 111(d), the reference contained in this subsection to the date of enactment of this Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the date of enactment of such paragraph (14).”

(i) PRIOR STATE ACTIONS REGARDING SMART METERING STANDARDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 112 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) PRIOR STATE ACTIONS.—Subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall not apply to the standard established by paragraph (14) of section 111(d) in the case of any electric utility in a State if, before the enactment of this subsection—

“(1) the State has implemented for such utility the standard concerned (or a comparable standard);

“(2) the State regulatory authority for such State or relevant nonregulated electric utility has conducted a proceeding to consider implementation of the standard concerned (or a comparable standard) for such utility within the previous 3 years; or

“(3) the State legislature has voted on the implementation of such standard (or a comparable standard) for such utility within the previous 3 years.”

(2) CROSS REFERENCE.—Section 124 of such Act (16 U.S.C. 2634) is amended by adding the following at the end thereof: “In the case of the standard established by paragraph (14) of section 111(d), the reference contained in this subsection to the date of enactment of this Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the date of enactment of such paragraph (14).”

SEC. 1253. COGENERATION AND SMALL POWER PRODUCTION PURCHASE AND SALE REQUIREMENTS.

(a) TERMINATION OF MANDATORY PURCHASE AND SALE REQUIREMENTS.—Section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 824a-3) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(m) TERMINATION OF MANDATORY PURCHASE AND SALE REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) OBLIGATION TO PURCHASE.—After the date of enactment of this subsection, no electric utility shall be required to enter into a new contract or obligation to purchase electric energy from a qualifying cogeneration facility or a qualifying small power production facility under this section if the Commission finds that the qualifying cogeneration facility or qualifying small power production facility has nondiscriminatory access to—

“(A)(i) independently administered, auction-based day ahead and real time wholesale markets for the sale of electric energy; and (ii) wholesale markets for long-term sales of capacity and electric energy; or



31 May 2011

**IARC CLASSIFIES RADIOFREQUENCY ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS AS
POSSIBLY CARCINOGENIC TO HUMANS**

Lyon, France, May 31, 2011 -- The WHO/International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has classified radiofrequency electromagnetic fields as **possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B)**, based on an increased risk for **glioma**, a malignant type of brain cancer¹, associated with wireless phone use.

Background

Over the last few years, there has been mounting concern about the possibility of adverse health effects resulting from exposure to radiofrequency electromagnetic fields, such as those emitted by wireless communication devices. The number of mobile phone subscriptions is estimated at **5 billion globally**.

From **May 24–31 2011, a Working Group of 31 scientists from 14 countries has been meeting at IARC in Lyon, France, to assess the potential carcinogenic hazards from exposure to radiofrequency electromagnetic fields**. These assessments will be published as Volume 102 of the IARC *Monographs*, which will be the fifth volume in this series to focus on physical agents, after **Volume 55** (Solar Radiation), **Volume 75** and **Volume 78** on ionizing radiation (X-rays, gamma-rays, neutrons, radio-nuclides), and **Volume 80 on non-ionizing radiation (extremely low-frequency electromagnetic fields)**.

The IARC Monograph Working Group discussed the possibility that these exposures might induce long-term health effects, in particular an increased risk for cancer. This has relevance for public health, particularly for users of mobile phones, as the number of users is large and growing, particularly among young adults and children.

The IARC Monograph Working Group discussed and evaluated the available literature on the following exposure categories involving radiofrequency electromagnetic fields:

- occupational exposures to radar and to microwaves;
- environmental exposures associated with transmission of signals for radio, television and wireless telecommunication; and
- personal exposures associated with the use of wireless telephones.

International experts shared the complex task of tackling the exposure data, the studies of cancer in humans, the studies of cancer in experimental animals, and the mechanistic and other relevant data.

¹ **237 913 new cases of brain cancers** (all types combined) occurred around the world in 2008 (gliomas represent 2/3 of these). Source: **Glabocan 2008**

Results

The evidence was reviewed critically, and overall evaluated as being *limited*² among users of wireless telephones for glioma and acoustic neuroma, and *inadequate*³ to draw conclusions for other types of cancers. The evidence from the occupational and environmental exposures mentioned above was similarly judged inadequate. The Working Group did not quantitate the risk; however, one study of past cell phone use (up to the year 2004), showed a 40% increased risk for gliomas in the highest category of heavy users (reported average: 30 minutes per day over a 10-year period).

Conclusions

Dr Jonathan Samet (University of Southern California, USA), overall Chairman of the Working Group, indicated that "the evidence, while still accumulating, is strong enough to support a conclusion and the **2B classification**. The conclusion means that there could be some risk, and therefore we need to keep a close watch for a link between cell phones and cancer risk."

"Given the potential consequences for public health of this classification and findings," said IARC Director Christopher Wild, "it is important that additional research be conducted into the long-term, heavy use of mobile phones. Pending the availability of such information, it is important to take pragmatic measures to reduce exposure such as hands-free devices or texting."

The Working Group considered hundreds of scientific articles; the complete list will be published in the Monograph. It is noteworthy to mention that several recent in-press scientific articles⁴ resulting from the **Interphone study** were made available to the working group shortly before it was due to convene, reflecting their acceptance for publication at that time, and were included in the evaluation.

A concise report summarizing the main conclusions of the IARC Working Group and the evaluations of the carcinogenic hazard from radiofrequency electromagnetic fields (including the use of mobile telephones) will be published in **The Lancet Oncology** in its July 1 issue, and in a few days online.

² '**Limited evidence of carcinogenicity**': A positive association has been observed between exposure to the agent and cancer for which a causal interpretation is considered by the Working Group to be credible, but chance, bias or confounding could not be ruled out with reasonable confidence.

³ '**Inadequate evidence of carcinogenicity**': The available studies are of insufficient quality, consistency or statistical power to permit a conclusion regarding the presence or absence of a causal association between exposure and cancer, or no data on cancer in humans are available.

⁴ a. 'Acoustic neuroma risk in relation to mobile telephone use: results of the INTERPHONE international case-control study' (the Interphone Study Group, in *Cancer Epidemiology, in press*)

b. 'Estimation of RF energy absorbed in the brain from mobile phones in the Interphone study' (Cardis et al., *Occupational and Environmental Medicine, in press*)

c. 'Risk of brain tumours in relation to estimated RF dose from mobile phones – results from five Interphone countries' (Cardis et al., *Occupational and Environmental Medicine, in press*)

d. 'Location of Gliomas in Relation to Mobile Telephone Use: A Case-Case and Case-Specular Analysis' (*American Journal of Epidemiology*, May 24, 2011. [Epub ahead of print].)

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Link to the audio file posted shortly after the briefing:

http://terrance.who.int/mediacentre/audio/press_briefings/

About IARC

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is part of the World Health Organization. Its mission is to coordinate and conduct research on the causes of human cancer, the mechanisms of carcinogenesis, and to develop scientific strategies for cancer control. The Agency is involved in both epidemiological and laboratory research and disseminates scientific information through publications, meetings, courses, and fellowships.

If you wish your name to be removed from our press release e-mailing list, please write to com@iarc.fr.

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ABOUT THE IARC MONOGRAPHS

What are the IARC Monographs?

The *IARC Monographs* identify environmental factors that can increase the risk of human cancer. These include chemicals, complex mixtures, occupational exposures, physical and biological agents, and lifestyle factors. National health agencies use this information as scientific support for their actions to prevent exposure to potential carcinogens. Interdisciplinary working groups of expert scientists review the published studies and evaluate the weight of the evidence that an agent can increase the risk of cancer. The principles, procedures, and scientific criteria that guide the evaluations are described in the Preamble to the IARC Monographs.

Since 1971, more than 900 agents have been evaluated, of which approximately 400 have been identified as carcinogenic or potentially carcinogenic to humans.

Definitions

Group 1: The agent is *carcinogenic to humans*.

This category is used when there is *sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity* in humans. Exceptionally, an agent may be placed in this category when evidence of carcinogenicity in humans is less than *sufficient* but there is *sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity* in experimental animals and strong evidence in exposed humans that the agent acts through a relevant mechanism of carcinogenicity.

Group 2.

This category includes agents for which, at one extreme, the degree of evidence of carcinogenicity in humans is almost *sufficient*, as well as those for which, at the other extreme, there are no human data but for which there is evidence of carcinogenicity in experimental animals. Agents are assigned to either Group 2A (*probably carcinogenic to humans*) or Group 2B (*possibly carcinogenic to humans*) on the basis of epidemiological and experimental evidence of carcinogenicity and mechanistic and other relevant data. The terms *probably carcinogenic* and *possibly carcinogenic* have no quantitative significance and are used simply as descriptors of different levels of evidence of human carcinogenicity, with *probably carcinogenic* signifying a higher level of evidence than *possibly carcinogenic*.

Group 2A: The agent is *probably carcinogenic to humans*.

This category is used when there is *limited evidence of carcinogenicity* in humans and *sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity* in experimental animals. In some cases, an agent may be classified in this category when there is *inadequate evidence of carcinogenicity* in humans and *sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity* in experimental animals and strong evidence that the carcinogenesis is mediated by a mechanism that also operates in humans. Exceptionally, an agent may be classified in this category solely on the basis of *limited evidence of carcinogenicity* in humans. An agent may be assigned to this category if it clearly belongs, based on mechanistic considerations, to a class of agents for which one or more members have been classified in Group 1 or Group 2A.

Group 2B: The agent is *possibly carcinogenic to humans*.

This category is used for agents for which there is *limited evidence of carcinogenicity* in humans and less than *sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity* in experimental animals. It may also be used when there is *inadequate evidence of carcinogenicity* in humans but there is *sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity* in experimental animals. In some instances, an agent for which there is *inadequate evidence of carcinogenicity* in humans and less than *sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity* in experimental animals together with supporting evidence from mechanistic and other relevant data may be placed in this group. An agent may be classified in this category solely on the basis of strong evidence from mechanistic and other relevant data.

Group 3: The agent is *not classifiable as to its carcinogenicity to humans*.

This category is used most commonly for agents for which the evidence of carcinogenicity is *inadequate* in humans and *inadequate or limited* in experimental animals.

Exceptionally, agents for which the evidence of carcinogenicity is *inadequate* in humans but *sufficient* in experimental animals may be placed in this category when there is strong evidence that the mechanism of carcinogenicity in experimental animals does not operate in humans.

Agents that do not fall into any other group are also placed in this category.

An evaluation in Group 3 is not a determination of non-carcinogenicity or overall safety. It often means that further research is needed, especially when exposures are widespread or the cancer data are consistent with differing interpretations.

Group 4: The agent is *probably not carcinogenic to humans*.

This category is used for agents for which there is *evidence suggesting lack of carcinogenicity* in humans and in experimental animals. In some instances, agents for which there is *inadequate evidence of carcinogenicity* in humans but *evidence suggesting lack of carcinogenicity* in experimental animals, consistently and strongly supported by a broad range of mechanistic and other relevant data, may be classified in this group.

Definitions of evidence, as used in IARC Monographs for studies in humans

The evidence relevant to carcinogenicity from studies in humans is classified into one of the following categories:

Sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity: The Working Group considers that a causal relationship has been established between exposure to the agent and human cancer. That is, a positive relationship has been observed between the exposure and cancer in studies in which chance, bias and confounding could be ruled out with reasonable confidence. A statement that there is *sufficient evidence* is followed by a separate sentence that identifies the target organ(s) or tissue(s) where an increased risk of cancer was observed in humans. Identification of a specific target organ or tissue does not preclude the possibility that the agent may cause cancer at other sites.

IARC CLASSIFIES RADIOFREQUENCY ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS AS POSSIBLY CARCINOGENIC TO HUMANS

Limited evidence of carcinogenicity: A positive association has been observed between exposure to the agent and cancer for which a causal interpretation is considered by the Working Group to be credible, but chance, bias or confounding could not be ruled out with reasonable confidence.

Inadequate evidence of carcinogenicity: The available studies are of insufficient quality, consistency or statistical power to permit a conclusion regarding the presence or absence of a causal association between exposure and cancer, or no data on cancer in humans are available.

Evidence suggesting lack of carcinogenicity: There are several adequate studies covering the full range of levels of exposure that humans are known to encounter, which are mutually consistent in not showing a positive association between exposure to the agent and any studied cancer at any observed level of exposure. The results from these studies alone or combined should have narrow confidence intervals with an upper limit close to the null value (e.g. a relative risk of 1.0). Bias and confounding should be ruled out with reasonable confidence, and the studies should have an adequate length of follow-up. A conclusion of *evidence suggesting lack of carcinogenicity* is inevitably limited to the cancer sites, conditions and levels of exposure, and length of observation covered by the available studies. In addition, the possibility of a very small risk at the levels of exposure studied can never be excluded.

In some instances, the above categories may be used to classify the degree of evidence related to carcinogenicity in specific organs or tissues.

Smart Meter is Watching You

1. Warrantless invasion of privacy which is a violation of your constitutional right. Article IV of the Constitution of the United States states *"The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."* Protect yourself, your privacy, and your property by NOT consenting to allow a Smart Meter to be installed on your property. Smart meters can provide probable cause.

A traditional meter tells your utility company how much gas and electricity you use between readings. Smart meters tell them how much energy you use, when you use it, what you use it for and even what appliances you use it with. All of this information leaves you at risk for identity theft, surveillance, physical danger and other misuse of your information. Learn what you can do to protect yourself, and what needs to be done to insure your right to privacy. For more information visit <http://turn.org/article.php?list=type&>.

2. Smart Meter hackers, criminals, and abusive partners. Just like computer hacking, Hackers could gain access to your unique data from the smart grid, and either match it to other financial data, or use it to fraudulently impersonate you as a utility customer, ruining your credit. Criminals or abusive partners could monitor real-time data and patterns to see when your house is vacant - or not. For more information visit <http://turn.org/article.php?id=1633>

Green Biz blog covers four ways your smart meter and the smart grid can be hacked, based on the security review done by MIT Technology Review and cyber-security firm IOActive.

Tech experts warn the grid could be hacked in four ways:

1. Attack a smart meter via its RAM, or memory chip
2. Through the meter's radio chip
3. Using a wireless computer
4. Spreading mal-ware or a virus through the network

All of these attacks can be carried out on the meter attached to your house, and all can wreak havoc on the power grid, causing surges, blackouts or worse. For more information visit <http://www.greenbiz.com/blog/2009/09/01/four-ways-hack-smart-grid>

3. Smart Meter radiation and health hazards. The utility companies have not been honest about the radiation emissions and health hazards associated with Smart Meters. Approximately 5% of the population are acutely sensitive to these radiation emissions, but ALL people will eventually suffer from its long term effects. Are you willing to take the risk of getting cancer from a Smart Meter? And if you do, how can you prove that it was the result of Smart Meters? Why take the added risk? For more information visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLeCTaSG2-U>.

4. Smart Meter inaccuracy and increased energy costs. Smart Meters are advertised to save you money on your utility bill. But too many Smart Meter "customers" have experienced increased utility costs. It should be noted that Smart Meters do absolutely nothing to lower your utility bills; only YOU can do that! But the Smart Meter can be controlled by the utility company to be used to turn your utilities down - or off. For more information just Google "Smart Meters".

<http://www.riversideteapartypatriots.com/smart-meters.html>

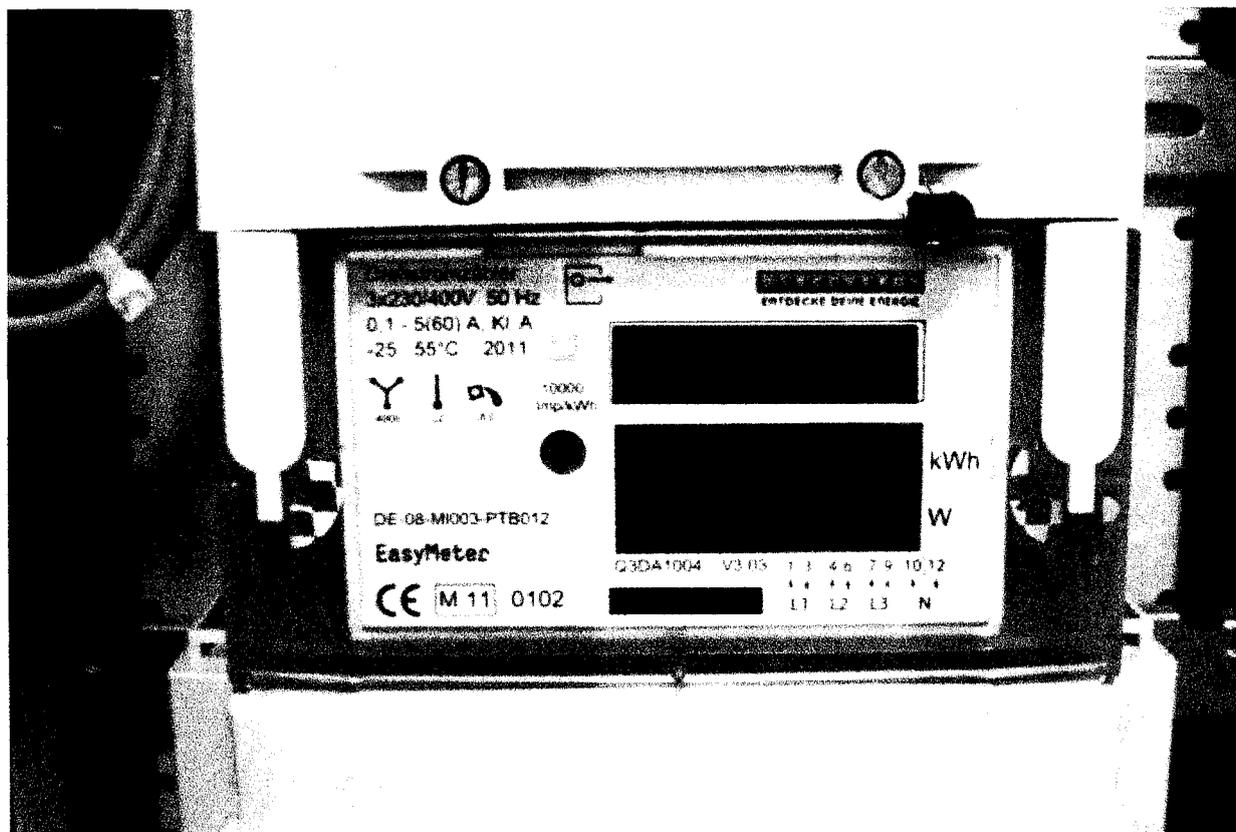
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Researchers find smart meters could reveal favorite TV shows



[\[http://www.cnet.com/profile/elinormills/\]](http://www.cnet.com/profile/elinormills/)

by **Elinor Mills** [\[http://www.cnet.com/profile/elinormills/\]](http://www.cnet.com/profile/elinormills/) | January 24, 2012 11:15 AM PST



A Discovery smart meter used for testing by researchers who found that they could snoop on some of the data transmitted over the Internet to figure out what specific content was being viewed on the digital TV.

(Credit: Muenster University of Applied Sciences, Ulrich Greveler, Benjamin Justus, and Dennis Loehr)

Smart meters that monitor electricity usage in homes in parts of Germany leak data that could reveal what programs are being watched on the digital TV, researchers there say.

Exhibit 'D'

The researchers tested smart meters made by German company Discovery and found that someone with network sniffing skills and equipment could use a "man in the middle" attack to eavesdrop on data related to power use in the home.

The smart meters record high-resolution energy consumption of appliances every two seconds and transmit it to the server at the utility company over the Internet. The system gives utilities up-to-date information on power usage and allows customers to use a Web browser to get detailed data and statistics that can help them track usage and expenses. The data includes the amount of electricity used and the type of appliances used, but also granular information based on the lighting display of the digital TV, according to the researchers.

The household electrical usage profile reveals content displayed on a cathode ray tube (CRT), a plasma display TV, or a liquid crystal display (LCD) TV set with dynamic backlighting, the paper says. The lighting patterns, basically the amount of light and dark emitted on the display for individual frames, is unique for each TV program and movie. Someone would have to already know the light pattern "fingerprint" of the specific content to compare with samples coming from the smart meters at the homes to be able to look for a match to recognized content.

This technique of matching the light patterns could be used to determine what channels are being watched on TV and what TV programs, DVDs, or even downloaded videos are being viewed, said Dennis Loehr, a researcher at Muenster University of Applied Sciences who is getting a doctorate degree at Ruhr Universitat Bochum.

"Our test results show that two 5-minute chunks of consecutive viewing without major interference by other appliances is sufficient to identify the content," Loehr and his fellow researchers--Ulrich Greveler and Benjamin Justus--wrote in their paper, to be presented Wednesday at the **Computers, Privacy and Data Protection** [<http://www.cpdpconferences.org/>] conference in Brussels. (PDF [http://www.its.fh-muenster.de/greveler/pubs/preprint_online.pdf])

The data is exposed because it is not signed or encrypted, Loehr said in an interview with CNET. "Anyone with access to your home network has access to this data," he said.

The researchers also are worried that the data could be collected and sold to advertisers. In addition, it could be used by entertainment companies to check that pirated content is not being viewed, Loehr said.

"With that kind of data a company could sell it to a marketing or promotion company and they can create detailed or personalized ads," he said. "And they could detect that someone was watching an illegal copy of a film."

"Unfortunately, smart meters are able to become surveillance devices that monitor the behavior of the customers," the paper concludes. "This leads to unprecedented invasions of consumer privacy."

Exhibit 'D'

The researchers contacted the maker of the smart meters and were told that encryption and data signing will be included in the next generation of the devices, but it could be as many as 10 years before devices already installed are replaced, according to Loehr.

Representatives from Discovergy did not respond to an e-mail seeking comment.

The researchers have not looked at other smart meters deployed in the U.S. and elsewhere, and have not analyzed what data, if any, could be gleaned from activity on personal computers. By comparison, **smart meters operated by PG&E** [<http://www.pge.com/myhome/customerservice/smartmeter/facts/>] in California, for instance, record residential power usage in hourly intervals.

Karsten Nohl, a security researcher based in Germany who has previously analyzed mobile phone and smart card security, said privacy issues are just one worry with smart meters.

"It's crucial that privacy considerations of the smart grid are discussed before the technology is rolled out on a massive scale. Side-channel information about user behavior, however, would appear as a minor concern," he wrote in an e-mail. "The very utility companies that collect the power measurements also have the ability to remotely flash software on your meter, your electronic car [<http://reviews.cnet.com/car-tech/>], your refrigerator, and any other 'smart' appliance. Even if the utilities chose not to abuse this massive surveillance potential, will they be able to protect their systems so others can't either?"



[<http://www.cnet.com/profile/elinormills/>]

About Elinor Mills [<http://www.cnet.com/profile/elinormills/>]

Elinor Mills covers Internet security and privacy. She joined CNET News in 2005 after working as a foreign correspondent for Reuters in Portugal and writing for The Industry Standard, the IDG News Service, and the Associated Press.

Exhibit 'D'

SMART METERS: NO FEDERAL MANDATE

08-17-2011 2:13 am - Marti Oakley - The PPJ Gazette

Smart meters are being installed all over the states. I just recently found out that I had one installed on my home without my consent or knowledge as is required by law. These meters and the GRID system are highly dangerous and people need to know just how dangerous they are.

I have contacted x-Cel energy and demanded they remove the meter from my home. Please advise those on your email list to either refuse the meters, or demand they be removed. This is not, contrary to what they tell you a "no opt out" system. The regulations clearly state that you must be offered or request the meter.....they cannot arbitrarily install it and force you into compliance.

These meters have never been tested for use in communities or in a meshed system. The WHO lists them as a known carcinogen. They are on the C-B2 list along with DDT and lead. These meters emit radio frequency non-ionized radiation in rapid pulses over any 24 hour period which can seriously harm your health and mental well being.

Please help to inform people about these dangerous meters. This GRID system has nothing to do with going green, energy efficiency or conservation. This is a tax system that allows the utility to tie your rate of energy to the markets and to charge you the highest rate possible at any given moment. The higher your electric bill, the higher your taxes.

THE ARTICLE BY MARTI OAKLEY;

THERE IS NO FEDERAL SECURITY MANDATE FOR SMART METERS, according to George W. Arnold, the national coordinator for smart-grid interoperability at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. This agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce is said not to be involved in regulations but is only tasked with promoting standards among industries.

While both the 2005 and 2007 faux energy bills were codified into public laws, NO part of them creates a federal law pertaining to individual consumers or dictating that the public must be forced to comply with provisions of SMART Grid.

Contrary to the bleating of manufacturers and utility talking heads, who claim there is no "opt out", the fact is you, the consumer must be offered the meter, or request a meter and "OPT IN". No one can be forced to comply with an unrevealed contract between private corporations, and to which you were never a party and had no knowledge of.

Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 : An Energy Tax Package was under development in Congress for several years prior to 2008. In September 2008, the package was finally enacted into law via its inclusion in the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008. This tax package shifted tax liabilities from corporations who were already posting massive record profits, onto the public.

Section 1307 State Consideration of Smart Grid

Energy 2007, Page 6 : This Section amends PURPA to create two additional PURPA Standards. (Note: Two new PURPA Standards are also created in Section 532.)

These standards are in the form of requirements on parties such as utilities to undertake certain actions. The standards are not directly prescriptive on these parties, however; it is up to state utility regulatory commissions, or the bodies that govern other types of utilities, to decide that the standards should be actually adopted by utilities subject to their jurisdiction.

The only direct mandate with PURPA standards is for the state or other jurisdictional body TO CONSIDER whether the new Standard should be implemented and to demonstrate that it has undertaken such consideration.

The first new Standard would require utilities—prior to undertaking investments in non-advanced grid technologies—to demonstrate that they have considered investments in "qualified smart grid systems" based on a list of factors (on page 301) in the section that include total costs, cost-effectiveness, etc.

This Standard would also allow utilities to recover from ratepayers any capital, operating expenditures, or other costs of the smart grid investment, including a reasonable rate-of-return.

Furthermore, this Standard would allow utilities to recover remaining book value of any equipment rendered obsolete by the deployment of such smart grid systems. There is no description or list relative to what "qualified smart grid systems" would be. (end Page 6) (all emphasis, mine)

This is a tax bill. "Ratepayers" are actually taxpayers. This is a new TAX forcing the public to finance SMART METERS/GRID at the rate of 100% of costs plus a profit margin written into it. We are being forced to finance a system sold as energy conservation, efficiency, carbon reduction, and at the same time being subjected to unwarranted surveillance, data mining, and extreme health hazards not to mention the invasion of our homes and businesses. Taxes for this system are applied to your energy bill under several categories and not one part of this bill or the SMART GRID system will reduce consumption or make energy sources more secure or efficient.

The Energy bills of 2005 and 2007 were Energy TAX bills and had nothing to do with conservation, security or efficiency. Reading through the 2005-2007 tax provisions is a laundry list of non-related tax breaks, subsidies, tax credits and other

loopholes for gas and oil cartels and other so-called energy producing corporations. All taxes for financing this loss of revenue will be applied to and paid byyou, the general public.

Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) Through PURPA, two standards were established: "The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA 2007) contains two sections (secs. 532 and 1307), that also add additional "States-must-consider" standards to the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA)."

The "states must consider" does not mean the states must comply as there is no law to force compliance of the states.

"DOE itself is NOT involved in the implementation of PURPA—States (or local governing boards) are—and so DOE is not in a position to offer guidance or advice on these new PURPA provisions."

**This is where the Department of Energy excused itself because it has no lawful authority.

How they got in YOUR state

Demand Response and SMART METERING Policy Actions since the Energy Policy Act of 2005. A summary for State Officials.

This summary is the guide document instructing state officials on how to implement this business plan in their respective states.

Follow the Money!

In late October 2009, the Department of Energy (DOE) announced the recipients of the \$3.4 billion in stimulus grants under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Award selections were announced for 100 smart grid projects that are intended to lead to the rollout of approximately 18 million smart meters, 1 million in-home energy management displays, and 170,000 smart thermostats, as well as numerous advanced transformers and load management devices. The award selections were organized by category: 1) Advanced Metering Infrastructure; 2) Customer Systems; 3) Electric Distribution Systems; 4) Electric Transmission Systems; 5) Equipment Manufacturing; and 6) Integrated and/or Crosscutting Systems. In its announcement, the DOE said the \$3.4 billion represented the largest amount of ARRA funding ever made in a single day.

But smart-grid projects that are competing for the \$800 million in federal grants under the stimulus program would have to meet strict cybersecurity guidelines. The standards institute and other groups are working on a set of recommendations for state utility boards and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. (this is in addition to the 3.4 Billion the DoE handed out under the stimulus package and does not include the staggering number of other quickly devised "grant" programs which were nothing more than federal subsidizing of private corporations identified as "stakeholders" in this assault on the public, amounting to billions more.)

ABSOLUTEY no testing was ever done on the SMART METERS to substantiate the claims by government and manufacturers that the meters are safe. Independent testing however, exposes the danger of these meters to the overall public health. 'Smart' meter radiation is a Class 2B carcinogen according to the World Health Organization (pdf) (from <http://stopsmartmeters.org/>) And this is just the tip of the SMART METER iceberg. No one knows what the affects of meshed systems will have on communities and neighborhoods as they are bombarded with massive amounts of radio frequency radiation thousands of times a day.

So how did they do it?

It is an assault on the senses that as the country foundered on the edge of near total economic collapse due to the corruption on Wall Street and in banking, that our congresses and presidents for the last ten years used this crisis to finance a massive assault on the public meant to further cement a police state while pandering to corporations to enrich them and by extension and as a repayment of favors owed, enriched themselves.

Congress flooded the Department of Energy and the Commerce Department with billions of dollars loaded into the Economic Stabilization Act 2008 and the Stimulus 2009 package to buy access to individual states. Considering the abhorrent state of our economy, you might be wondering where these billions came from.

First came the "economic stabilization act of 2008, then the "stimulus" package of 2009 where billions and billions were funneled to federal corporate agencies. Then came a meeting with the "council of governors" to determine how to access the states, flood them with cash during severe economic distress that they allowed to happen, and gain access inside the geographical boundaries of the states.

Of course, the "council of governors" jumped right on the wagon and every governor in every state followed them with their hands out for the free cash.....that came from borrowing against the full faith and credit of the United States (Inc) which turns out to beyou, the taxpayer.

This allowed the DoE and various other unlawfully created corporate federal agencies to disperse massive wads of cash to those "stakeholders" they cherish so much.

In short, the public is being forced to subsidize the capital investment and expansion of privately owned utilities in addition to being forced to pay a second time as these same parasitic corporations recoup these same investments that were funded by the stimulus package to begin with.

Reading through the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the subsequent EISA 2007 energy bill, it is absolutely clear that what did pass pertaining to SMART Metering pertained only to Federal buildings and [federal] housing. This is in adherence to the Constitution which gives the federal government power only over needful buildings, insular possessions and territories. In every other instance the word "voluntary" precedes any item.

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.

And if you get sick from these meters blasting you 24 hours a day with radio frequency radiation.....tough crunchies. There's money to be made.

Notice of refusal of SMART Meter http://www.w4ar.com/Smart_Meter_refusal_Letter.pdf

<http://stopsmartmeters.org/> 'Smart' meter radiation is a Class 2B carcinogen according to the World Health Organization (pdf), at least 100x the exposure from a cell phone, say UC Nuclear experts. Equivalent to living within 500 feet of a major cell tower, according to independent EMF expert Cindy Sage. Thousands are reporting adverse health effects to the PUC, and yet installations continue as if nothing is wrong.

USC Title 15 Commerce and Trade.

Not revised, codified and enacted into positive law. <http://www.llsdc.org/attachments/wysiwyg/544/usc-pos-law-titles.pdf>

Regardless, Title 15 Commerce and Trade is non-positive Code & Title, simply meaning that there is no underlying Constitutional authority for the federal government to enter into these areas and therefore, these "codes" cannot be codified into public law and carry no force of law except as it applies to the District of Columbia, insular possessions and territories. These are the ONLY places the federal government has absolute authority.

Commerce and trade cannot be codified into public law as there is no underlying Constitutional authority for the federal government to enter into commerce or trade other than as a contracting party or, in the treaty process. The government may enter into trade disputes between the states as an arbitrator when there is a state-to-state dispute although, depending upon the political leanings of SCOTUS at any given time, the twisting and contorting of this provision can change dramatically.

The federal government has no authority to unlawfully cede to or, empower any federal agency with powers and authority the federal government does not possess and never did.

COPYRIGHT: <http://ppjg.wordpress.com/2011/08/15/smart-meters-no-federal-mandate/>

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

<http://www.ferc.gov/legal/fed-sta/ene-pol-act.asp> <http://www.ferc.gov/industries/electric/indus-act/smart-grid.aspx> <http://www.ferc.gov/industries/electric/indus-act/smart-grid/eisa.pdf> Federal metering requirements (Applies ONLY to federal buildings and [federal] housing) and include NO specific guidance of what to measure (i.e., kW, KVA, PF, Voltage, etc.)

PURPA Section 532

<http://www.seiec.com/Purpa%20II%20integrated%20resource%20planning.html>

Estimated Budget Effects Of The Revenue Provisions Contained In Titles I. And XV. Of H.R. 6, The "Clean Renewable Energy And Conservation Tax Act Of 2007," As Passed By The House Of Representatives On December 6, 2007
<http://www.jct.gov/publications.html?func=startdown&id=1352>

Tax provisions written into both the 2005 and 2007 bills. <http://jct.gov/publications.html?func=startdown&id=1353>

Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/financialsvcs_dem/press092808.shtml

Department of Energy funding from Stimulus package <http://www.kema.com/services/consulting/utility-future/smart-grid/follow-the-money-stimulus-funding-begins-to-flow-into-smart-grid-section.aspx>

Federal funding for metering federal buildings and federal housing
http://www.govenergy.com/2009/pdfs/presentations/Energy101-Session05/Energy101-Session05-Chvala_William.pdf

An Energy Tax Package http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/financialsvcs_dem/press092808.shtml

Federal Meeting Requirements http://www.govenergy.com/2009/pdfs/presentations/Energy101-Session05/Energy101-Session05-Chvala_William.pdf

Demand Response and SMART METERING Policy Actions since the Energy Policy Act of 2005. A summary for State Officials
<http://www.scribd.com/doc/43043654/US-Smart-Meters-Regulations-Policy-Makers-Guide>

What are "advanced meters?" http://www.govenergy.com/2009/pdfs/presentations/Energy101-Session05/Energy101-Session05-Chvala_William.pdf

National Institutes of Standards and Technology <http://www.nist.gov/smartgrid/>

US-S Smart Meters Regulations Policy Makers Guide <http://www.scribd.com/doc/43043654/US-Smart-Meters-Regulations-Policy-Makers-Guide>

http://www.libertynewsonline.com/article_301_30954.php

Electro-Hyper-Sensitivity (EHS) is real

Reprinted from: <http://sites.google.com/site/nocelltowerinourneighborhood/home/wireless-smart-meter-concerns/health-concerns-grow-consumers-are-getting-sick-from-wireless-smart-meters>

People who say that health effects from wireless devices is not real and had not been documented in peer-reviewed studies have GOT to do their homework.

1. Read "Provocation study using heart rate variability shows microwave radiation from DECT phone affects autonomic nervous system," by M. Havas, J. Marrongelle, B. Pollner, E. Kelley, C.R.G. Rees, L. Tully, published in the peer-reviewed *European Journal of Oncology Library* Vol. 5, 2010. The study shows that radiation from a digital cordless phone base station affects the heart in a double-blind provocation study.

Go here to access the study: <http://www.magdahavas.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/Havas-HRV-Ramazzini1.pdf>

Relating potential heart problems to smart meters: persons with pacemakers are being advised to check with their doctors to see if there will be any problems if they get too close to a smart meter.

Read PG&E Radio Frequency FAQ, <http://www.pge.com/myhome/edusafety/systemworks/rf/faq/>, excerpt here:

Currently, medical device manufacturers advise patients to consult with their physicians when a patient has concerns about RF devices and interference. Although devices like SmartMeters™ have a typical RF exposure that is weak, distant, and extremely brief, PG&E would nevertheless advise any customer with concerns related to a medical device to consult with his or her physician for personal medical advice to best address his or her concern.

In addition, San Diego resident Susan Foster writes, "I was quite stunned to have senior SDG&E personnel ask me (a medical writer) to explain the health concerns, as the woman from SDG&E had been told to tell any concerned consumer that Smart Meters are perfectly safe. They are NOT safe when one has a pacemaker or certain cardiac arrhythmias. It has long been accepted in the medical literature that RF (microwave) radiation can interfere with the heart's natural rhythm and/or the rhythm sustained by a pacemaker. It was unconscionable to give false reassurances that could quite literally cost someone their life."

See UCAN Smart Meter Forum, "Health Concerns re Smart Meters," November 29th, 2010 by Susan Foster, on-line at:

http://www.ucan.org/forum/forums/energy/sdg_e_disputes/billing_dispute#comment-30645.

2. Another peer-reviewed study published in 2010, "Mobile phone pulse triggers evoked potentials," documented how cell phone EMFs are detected by the body and brain. The study was conducted by: Simona Carrubba and Andrew A. Marino of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, LSU Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, Louisiana; Clifton Frilot II of the School of Allied Health, LSU Health Sciences Center; and Andrew L. Chesson Jr. of the Department of Neurology, LSU Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, Louisiana. See *Neuroscience Letters* to read the study: <http://andrewamarino.com/PDFs/160-NeuroLetters2010.pdf>

3. In July 2011, a scientific study was released showing that electrosensitivity is not a psychological response. The peer-reviewed study "Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity: Evidence for a Novel Neurological Syndrome," was published in the *International Journal of Neuroscience*, and its authors include David E. McCarty, M.D., Simona Carrubba, Ph.D., Andrew L. Chesson, Jr., M.D., Clifton Frilot, II, Ph.D., Eduardo Gonzalez-Toledo, M.D., Andrew A. Marino, Ph.D. It studied a woman who knew she was electrosensitive and then exposed her to certain types of EMF without her knowing it. Her symptomatic responses were associated in particular with pulsed (versus continuous) EMF. You can find the peer-reviewed study documenting health affects in an electro-sensitive individual on-line at: http://electromagnetichealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/McCarty_Marino_2011_EMF_ES_neurological_syndrome_Int_J_Neurosci_July.pdf.

4. Another peer-reviewed study in 2011 replicated other studies documenting how sleep is affected to mobile-phone like RF EMF. The study exposed 30 healthy males to this type of radiation, and found: "Consistent with previous findings, our results provide further evidence that pulse-modulated RF EMF alter brain physiology."

Read: "Sleep EEG alterations: effects of different pulse-modulated radio frequency electromagnetic fields," published in the *Journal of Sleep Research*, April 12, 2011,

5. A National Institutes of Health study of cell phones and the brain published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* showed definite effects on the brain and nervous system from cell phone use. The lead researcher, Nora D. Volkow, said "I confess that after the findings I changed my behavior". She now uses it on speakerphone or earphone. She says "We have a responsibility to investigate whether there are or there are not long lasting consequences from repeated stimulation after five or ten years of cell phone exposure.

Watch the ABC World News report on Feb 22, 2011: <http://abcnews.go.com/watch/world-news-with-diane-sawyer/SH5585921/VD55113679/world-news-222-new-zealand-earthquake-the-search-for-survivors>. The cell phone story is at 14 minutes 25 seconds. You can click to it on the progress bar by going to 14:25.

Read the original study, "Effects of Cell Phone Radiofrequency Signal Exposure on Brain Glucose Metabolism," published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), 2011; 305(8): pages 808-813: <http://jama.ama-assn.org/content/305/8/808.abstract>

6. Some people report what is called the "Microwave Hearing Effect" when they are exposed to pulsed radiofrequency energy (the type of radiation emitted from cell phones and cell towers). It results in ear ringing or tinnitus (read about this, "Cell Phone Tower Tinnitus," on-line at <http://citizensforsafetechnology.org/Cell-Phone-Tower-Tinnitus.28.1047>).

This effect has been documented for decades by scientists, when those serving in the military began reporting ear ringing when they were near equipment emitting this type of radiation. Here is an excerpt from the GQ Magazine article, "Warning: Your Cell Phone May Be Hazardous to Your Health," by Christopher Ketchum, published in February 2010:

In 1960, Frey, then 25, was working at General Electric's Advanced Electronics Center at Cornell University when he was contacted by a technician whose job was to measure the signals emitted by radar stations. At the time, Frey had taken an interest in the electrical nature of the human body, specifically in how electric fields affect neural functioning. The technician claimed something incredible: He said he could "hear" radar at one of the sites where he worked.

Frey traveled to the facility and stood in the radar field. "And sure enough, I could hear it, too," he said, describing the persistent low-level hum. Frey went on to establish that the effect was real—electromagnetic (EM) radiation from radar could somehow be heard by human beings. The "hearing," however, didn't happen via normal sound waves perceived through the ear. It occurred somewhere in the brain itself, as EM waves interacted with the brain's cells, which generate tiny electrical fields. This idea came to be known as the Frey effect, and it caused an uproar in the neuroscience community.

The waves that Frey was concerned with were those emitted from the nonionizing part of the EM spectrum—the part that scientists always assumed could do no outright biological damage. When Frey began his research, it was assumed that the only way microwaves could have a damaging biological effect was if you increased the power of their signals and concentrated them like sword points—to the level where they could cook flesh. In 1967, this resulted in the first popular microwave oven, which employed microwave frequencies at very high power, concentrated and contained in a metal box. Aside from this engineered thermal effect, the signals were assumed to be safe.

Allan Frey would help pioneer the science that suggested otherwise. At the vanguard of a new field of study that came to be known as bioelectromagnetics, he found what appeared to be grave *nonthermal* effects from microwave frequencies—the part of the spectrum that belongs not just to radar signals and microwave ovens but also, in the past fifteen years, to cell phones. (The only honest way to think of our cell phones is that they are tiny, low-power microwave ovens, without walls, that we hold against the sides of our heads.) Frey tested microwave radiation on frogs and other lab animals, targeting the eyes, the heart, and the brain, and in each case he found troubling results. In one study, he triggered heart arrhythmias. Then, using the right modulations of the frequency, he even stopped frog hearts with microwaves—stopped the hearts dead.

Frey observed two factors in how microwaves at low power could affect living systems. First, there was the carrier wave: a frequency of 1,900 megahertz, for example, the same frequency of many cell phones today. Then there was the data placed on the carrier wave—in the case of cell phones, this would be the sounds, words, and pictures that travel along it. When you add information to a carrier wave, it embeds a second signal—a second frequency—within the carrier wave. This is known as modulation. A carrier wave can support any number of modulations, even those that match the extra-low frequencies at which the brain operates (between eight and twenty hertz). It was modulation, Frey discovered, that induced the widest variety of biological effects. But how this happened, on a neuronal level, he didn't yet understand.

In a study published in 1975 in the *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, Frey reported that microwaves pulsed at certain modulations could induce "leakage" in the barrier between the circulatory system and the brain. Breaching the blood-brain barrier is a serious matter: It means the brain's environment, which needs to be extremely stable for nerve cells to function properly, can be perturbed in all kinds of dangerous ways. Frey's method was rather simple: He injected a fluorescent dye into the circulatory system of white rats, then swept the microwave frequencies across their bodies. In a matter of minutes, the dye had leached into the confines of the rats' brains.

Frey says his work on radar microwaves and the blood-brain barrier soon came under assault from the government. Scientists hired and funded by the Pentagon claimed they'd failed to replicate his findings, yet they also refused to share the data or methodology behind their research ("a most unusual action in science," Frey wrote at the time). For more than fifteen years, Frey had received almost unrestricted funding from the Office of Naval Research. Now he was told to conceal his blood-brain-barrier work or his contract would be canceled.

Since then, no meaningful research into the effect of microwaves on the blood-brain barrier has been pursued in the United States. But a Swedish neurosurgeon, Leif Salford, recently expanded on Frey's work, confirming much of what Frey revealed decades ago. Salford found that microwave exposure killed rodents' brain cells and stimulated neurons associated with Alzheimer's. "A rat's brain is very much the same as a human's," he said in a 2003 interview with the BBC. "They have the same blood-brain barrier and neurons. We have good reason to believe that what happens in rats' brains also happens in humans'." His research, he said, suggests that "a whole generation of [cell-phone] users may suffer negative effects in middle age."

(Read More: <http://www.gq.com/cars-gear/gear-and-gadgets/201002/warning-cell-phone-radiation.>)

Here are some peer-reviewed studies documenting ear ringing and headaches due to pulsed microwave radiation exposure:
Read this list of peer-reviewed studies on ear-ringing done by neuroscientist A.H. Frey at
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?term=microwave%20hearing%20Frey>

Also read, "Headaches from cellular telephones: are they real and what are the implications?" by A. H. Frey, in the journal Environmental Health Perspectives, 1998 March; 106(3): 101-103:
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1533043/?tool=pubmed>

That's right, health effects from wireless RF radiation exposure is not fiction, and electro-sensitivity is not psychosomatic. In Sweden, it's fully recognized as an impairment.
Read about it here: <http://www.electrosensitivesociety.com/2010/01/28/hello-world>

Visit the website for the Swedish Association for the Electrohypersensitive (FEB) based in Sweden: <http://www.feb.nu/> and the English-language part of its website: http://www.org.feb.nu/index_int.htm

In fact, electro-hyper-sensitive persons are allowed to keep their analog utility meters and simply write-in their meter readings once a month to the utility company to avoid having a toxic smart meters installed on their residence. From Planet Thrive website:
In early 2010, all three utilities sat down in the same room with FEB to discuss a formal arrangement for accommodating people with electrical sensitivities. Both managers and engineers participated.

The meeting was held in a very positive atmosphere and all parties agreed upon a set of guidelines. These were based on the experiences of the past five years.

It was recognized that there were no catch-all solutions. It was instead a list of technical measures that could be selected from.

One technology is a special filter that has been developed by E.ON1. This filter dampens some types of PLC signals on the powerline, though it does not work for all types of PLC systems. The filter would be installed without cost to the ratepayer, where needed.

Another option is to let the ratepayer keep the old non-communicating mechanical meter, and simply send in a postcard once a month with the numbers.

In cases where the guidelines did not resolve the problem, the utility would contact FEB for advice.

As of early 2011, about 800-900 people with electrical sensitivities have needed to keep their mechanical meter. The total population of Sweden is about eight million.

Read "Smart meters in Sweden: Accommodating people with EHS," <http://planetthrive.com/2011/07/smart-meters-in-sweden/>
On Sept, 13, 2011, Per Segerback of FEB confirmed via e-mail to the administrator of the Burbank ACTION website that the Planet Thrive report was correct. He wrote:

Our members have been given the option of signing a separate contract with the company owning the line & meter, stating that you personally take responsibility to report once per month - in time - and that you may have to pay a possible fine if the report arrives too late.

About 900 members do this every month - I'm one of them.

Hundreds of studies have already shown that chronic exposure to low-level non-ionizing radiation stresses the body's immune system, is associated with increased risk of brain tumors, causes DNA breaks, creates leakage in the blood-brain barrier, and affects fertility.
For lists and tables of peer-reviewed studies documenting this, read:

Environmental Reviews: "Biological effects from exposure to electromagnetic radiation emitted by cell tower base stations and other antenna arrays," by B Blake Levitt and Henry Lai, Nov 5, 2010, 18:369-395: http://www.magdahavas.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/Blake_Levit-Henry_Lai.pdf

"Recent studies (1995-2000) on the biological effects of radiofrequency and cell phone radiation," by Henry Lai, Ph.D. Department of Bioengineering, University of Washington, 97 pages, <http://www.emrnetwork.org/pdfs/laisummary.pdf>

The Sage Report: "RF Studies on RFR effects at Low-Intensity Exposures," http://sagereports.com/smart-meter-rf/?page_id=404
Powerwatch list of studies: <http://www.powerwatch.org.uk/science/studies.asp>

Read "Research on the Effects of Cell Phone Radiation on Human Sperm," by Joel M. Moskowitz, Ph.D., March 3, 2011: [http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/uploadedFiles/Planning_and_Development/Level_3 -](http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/uploadedFiles/Planning_and_Development/Level_3_-_Commissions/Commission_for_Community_Environmental_Advisory/CEAC2011-04-07_1i-Effects_of_CellPhoneRadiation_onHumanSperm-Moskowitz)

[Commissions/Commission for Community Environmental Advisory/CEAC2011-04-07_1i-Effects of CellPhoneRadiation onHumanSperm-Moskowitz](http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/uploadedFiles/Planning_and_Development/Level_3_-_Commissions/Commission_for_Community_Environmental_Advisory/CEAC2011-04-07_1i-Effects_of_CellPhoneRadiation_onHumanSperm-Moskowitz)

Society of Environmental Journalists

<http://www.sej.org/publications/tipsheet/many-are-claiming-health-problems-caused-smart-meters?mid=5267>

Many Are Claiming Health Problems Caused by Smart Meters

October 12, 2011

A broad consortium of government agencies, environmental groups, and utilities and their industry organizations is touting the benefits of a "smart grid." Generally, this is conceived as an extensive revamp of the electrical system to make it more efficient and reliable, less polluting, and less expensive. Proponents of the smart grid envision it as having many benefits to both electric utilities and their customers — and see its costs largely as the dollar costs of building infrastructure.

- US Dept. of Energy, Smart Grid; Henry Kenchington, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Research and Development, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, 202-586-1878.

One component of the smart grid is smart meters, which operate as part of electric, gas, or water systems, and transmit meter readings to the utility many times a day, often via radio waves but sometimes via hard-wiring. This allows utilities to save money since meter readers are no longer needed. It also gives utilities frequent input on how much demand there is on their system at any one time, allowing them to fine tune their operations, use various tools (such as demand-based pricing) to equalize demand throughout the day and reduce peak loads, and plan for future supply needs.

The concepts sound good to many people, but serious flaws are becoming apparent as utilities rapidly install smart meters across the country, according to a rising chorus of critics. They are concerned about privacy (since they say utilities can interpolate many behavioral aspects of building occupants via the detailed reporting of utility use), security (since any utility's system could be hacked), and accuracy (with reports of very inaccurate readings from a small percentage of meters). Each of these issues warrants investigation and coverage.

Another major issue is possible human health impacts from smart meters. That is the focus of the remainder of this Tip.

SMART METER HEALTH IMPACTS?

The health impacts of smart meters is a difficult topic, due in large part to the scarcity of pertinent science. As a result, some of your coverage will need to focus on the unknowns, rather than the knowns.

But the numerous allegations of health damage from people in the US and around the globe, the common threads in the descriptions of health damage (often appearing to involve the neurological, immune, and/or endocrine systems), and the evidence from thousands of published studies that address a wide range of electrical, magnetic field, and radio-frequency impacts, suggest this could be a major public health issue that warrants coverage.

The main questions are: with no smart meter-specific evidence of safety regarding a wide range of possible health impacts, should utilities be allowed to force smart meters on people? Should the meters be proven safe before they are installed — or should the "precautionary principle" be reversed, as it often is with US law regarding chemical pollution? In other words, is it acceptable to allow utilities to install these meters, then require people to prove they are being harmed? And in this case, with many government agencies and major environmental groups supporting smart meters, who will be the watchdogs?

Regarding the science, there appears to be virtually none specifically addressing smart meters, based on a search of PubMed using the term "smart meter." PubMed is the repository for the vast majority of the world's health-related research in the past half-century or so. Looking beyond smart meter-specific research, there have been many studies of the electromagnetic spectrum involving cell phones and other electrical devices. You can find these on PubMed using search terms such as "radiowave," "cell phone," or "electromagnetic field." You may want to narrow your search to radiowave frequencies of 902-928 MHz, the band in which smart meters tend to operate, just above that of cell phones. Or you can scan more than 5,000 studies inventoried by an advocacy group:

- Prove-It Initiative, Studies.

However, the great majority of this research has focused only on thermal effects and cancer. Thermal effects (think of cooking meat in a microwave oven) are the health endpoint addressed by current FCC guidelines for wireless emissions. There has been relatively little research on health concerns such as damage to the immune, neurological, endocrine, cardiovascular, pulmonary, and other physiological or biological systems.

Another key issue is that the vast majority of the research has been conducted either in vitro, on animals, or on healthy humans. There has been almost no research on people with underlying health disorders, even though it's widely accepted that the body's defense systems in such people tend to be impaired. With about half the US population suffering from one or more chronic disorders, that's a large pool of people who could plausibly be more vulnerable to forces such as wireless emissions.

- CDC, "Chronic Diseases and Health Promotion."

One ongoing study that is attempting to investigate effects beyond thermal and cancer endpoints, at least for cell phones, is being led by Michael Wyde, a toxicologist with the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. His study is scheduled to be completed in 2014.

- Michael Wyde, 919-316-4640.

CLAIMS AND COUNTERCLAIMS

Given the existing evidence, the Council of Europe (an advisory body to the European Parliament that has been tasked with promoting democracy and protecting human rights and the rule of law) issued a resolution in May 2011 expressing numerous concerns about possible harm from various electromagnetic emissions, and generally recommending a cautious approach, saying "there could be extremely high health and economic costs if early warnings are neglected," similar to what happened with asbestos, leaded gasoline, and tobacco. The Council also said current international standards "have serious limitations."

- Council of Europe, Resolution 1815, "The Potential Dangers of Electromagnetic Fields and Their Effect on the Environment."

The EPA agreed in 2002 with the Council's caveat about existing standards, saying frequently-made claims that the FCC guidelines provide protection against a wide range of possible health effects from wireless emissions are unjustified.

- EPA, July 16, 2002, letter from Norbert Hankin (no longer listed with the agency), Center for Science and Risk Assessment, Radiation Protection Division, to Janet Newton, the EMR Network.

Nonetheless, many utility officials and others addressing this issue today are making just those kinds of claims, and saying smart meters pose no risk.

- "Radio-Frequency Exposure Levels from Smart Meters: A Case Study of One Model," February 2011, by the Electric Power Research Institute.
- "An Investigation of Radiofrequency Fields Associated with the Itron Smart Meter," December 2010, by the Electric Power Research Institute.
- "No Health Threat from Smart Meters," 2010 (fourth quarter), by the Utilities Telecom Council.
- "Health Impacts of Radio Frequency Exposure from Smart Meters," California Council on Science and Technology, April 2011.
- "A Discussion of Smart Meters and RF Exposure Issues," Edison Electric Institute, Association of Electric Illuminating Companies, and Utilities Telecom Council, March 2011.

In addition to the dearth of research on nonthermal or noncancer effects, there is little or no research addressing the fact that smart meters are connected to a building's electrical system, and could interact with it in a variety of ways. That condition makes existing research on cell phones inapplicable, since cell phones have no such connection. In addition, smart meter critics say some manufacturers acknowledge their smart meter emits almost constantly for function, security, and operational reasons; this is in contrast to the claim by many utilities that the meters operate for only a very brief time, such as a fraction of a second once each hour, when transmitting a reading to the utility. Long-term, 24/7 emissions seldom, if ever, are studied in wireless emission research.

METER INDUSTRY

A few of the many meter manufacturers you might consider contacting to check on this angle are listed below, along with their newly-formed national organization. Or ask the utilities you are covering which manufacturer(s) they are using or considering.

- Landis+Gyr (acquired in May 2011 by Toshiba).
- Tantulus.
- Silver Spring: Realizing the Promise of Advanced Metering and Whitepapers.
- Smart Meter Manufacturers Association of America.

HYPERSENSITIVITY IN SOME?

Another issue that distinguishes smart meters from cell phones, wireless computers, microwave ovens, and similar devices is that users of the latter typically have a choice whether to use them; with many utilities forcing customers to have a smart meter installed, no one served by that utility has a choice.

The number of people who are vulnerable to emissions from smart meters and other electrical devices — who are typically described as having electrical hypersensitivity — likely is small. A limited number of studies suggest the numbers may be 1.5-5% of the general population.

- Wikipedia: Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity, Prevalence.

Based on decades of anecdotal accounts, health problems can show up within seconds of exposure in some people, or in months in others. With the longer time frames, most people, and their doctors, will have a very difficult time making the connection between their health problems and a wireless device. That difficulty is illustrated in the following media article, and in some of the accounts inventoried at the second URL below:

- "Study Lends Some Credence to Wifi Claims," SantaCruz.com, Jul 13, 2011, by Alastair Bland.
- EMF Safety Network, Smart Meter Health Complaints.

One prominent person who has discussed her pronounced, rapid-onset electrical hypersensitivity, long before the advent of smart meters, is Gro Harlem Brundtland, former prime minister of Norway and director-general of the World Health Organization.

- Interview with Gro Harlem Brundtland, translation of cover story in Norwegian newspaper *Dagbladet*, by Aud Dalsegg, March 9, 2002.

In many cases, people with known or suspected electrical hypersensitivities are knowledgeable and proactive enough to ask their utility to allow them to opt out of having a smart meter. For people who are unknowingly electrically hypersensitive, and in whom symptoms may not show up for months, they likely won't know enough to ask to opt out, and may suffer severe consequences. Until much more science is available — pinning down the specific electrical forces that may be doing the damage, the types of damage that are possible, and the traits of people who are vulnerable — current efforts to mitigate problems will be based on guesses.

UTILITIES FACE QUESTIONS

As utilities increasingly are being forced to respond to customer concerns about smart meters, they have numerous issues they may be considering:

Given there is no mandate from the federal government requiring utilities to install smart meters, do utilities want to go this route?

If they do, should they conduct more research, in order to protect their customers, and themselves from future lawsuits?

There are many smart meter manufacturers. Are any of their systems safer than others? Can they prove it?

Even though there is little research on the potential health effects of hard-wired smart meters, and there are some indications this option may also be harmful to people with electrical hypersensitivity, should utilities consider this option instead of wireless smart meters (which appear to be the dominant system being selected by utilities)?

Should utilities allow any customers to opt out? If not, are they willing to accept legal liability for any short- or long-term health problems that may occur? If they do allow opt outs, under what circumstances (for instance, do they need proof of health vulnerability, or is concern about possible health effects sufficient grounds)? Are utilities justified in charging such customers extra, or is this an anticipated expense that should be shared by all customers? Is there a way to minimize any additional expenses, such as allowing customers to self-report their monthly readings (with random checks by the utility), or charging a customer a flat monthly amount, based on historical usage, and reading the meter once a year and adjusting the final bill each year accordingly? What percentage of people can utilities allow to opt out, and still have a functional, more-efficient system?

Should utilities comply with the Institute of Medicine's report released June 21, 2011, recommending that all levels of federal government consider the health impacts of their actions — even when those actions don't seem to have a direct health component — since utilities are playing a quasi-governmental role and making decisions that affect a significant number of people?

- "For the Public's Health: Revitalizing Law and Policy to Meet New Challenges," Institute of Medicine, June 2011. [Release](#) (with link to the report).

The US Dept. of Health and Human Services has kept a very low profile regarding the health concerns being raised by critics of smart meters. It may be worthwhile to ask DHHS officials what efforts they may be making, in light of the IOM recommendations. A possible starting point is:

- [Howard Koh](#), Assistant Secretary for Health, 202-690-7694.

STATES AND MUNICIPALITIES

As noted above, there is no federal mandate to install smart meters. After reviewing currently available information, PNM, a major New Mexico utility, says it won't be installing smart meters for at least 5 years, saying they aren't cost-effective.

Other utilities are allowing, or have been forced to allow, customers to opt out, under certain circumstances, and with varying cost structures. Examples include:

- Central Maine Power: [MPUC Decides Smart Meter Investigation](#), May 17, 2011, and [Skelton, Taintor & Abbott Wins Landmark Smart Meter Case](#), May 25, 2011.
- In Colorado, Xcel Energy, Black Hills Energy, and Poudre Valley REA have allowed opt outs on a case-by-case basis.
- For Xcel's experimental program in Boulder, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission is recommending a voluntary opt-in program, which is just the opposite of a mandatory participation program that allows no opt out.
- Arizona Public Service is discussing whether and how to allow opt outs.

Some states are taking an active role. In California, the state is requiring Pacific Gas & Electric to revisit its proposed opt out policy, after vehement reaction against the initial proposal.

- California Public Utilities Commission, "[PG&E Smart Meter Opt-Out Proposal](#)"; Sept. 14, 2011, "[Workshop on Smart Meter Opt-Out Options](#)."
- In Arizona, the [Arizona Corporation Commission](#) (whose duties include oversight over public utilities) held a workshop Sept. 8, 2011, and is considering how to proceed. Arizona Corporation Commission.
- In Illinois, governor Pat Quinn vetoed in September 2011 legislation that would have authorized a smart grid. Instead, he favors other ways of modernizing the state's grid. His veto might be overridden by the state legislature later this year. "[Illinois Governor Vetoes Smart Grid Legislation](#)," EnergyBoom, Sept. 13, 2011, by Joseph Baker.

Cities and counties also are responding to the concerns of their constituents, even though they may have no legal authority to force a utility to comply, since that power often is vested in a state utility agency. For instance, in California, 36 cities, 10 counties, and one tribal jurisdiction that are home to nearly 2.7 million people have expressed some level of opposition to installation of smart meters.

- Stop Smart Meters, "[CA Local Governments on Board](#)."

When you're exploring the politics of who has the authority to make decisions on this issue, a few points to keep in mind are:

- Utilities generally have a monopoly in any given location, and customers usually don't have any other provider to choose from.
- There usually is some type of state utility commission that has legal oversight over a utility. However, in some states, such as Colorado, the utility commission has no power over utilities such as member-owned cooperatives. One of the reasons state legislators exempted member-owned cooperatives from oversight was because they assumed members could have any problems addressed through the directors, who are elected. But there have been a number of cases where directors were unresponsive or didn't provide independent oversight. The net result may be an unregulated monopoly.

ADVOCACY GROUPS

There are many advocacy groups, with various levels of sophistication and representing a wide range of geographic areas. In addition to ones referred to above, others you might consider as sources include:

- Arizonans for Safer Utility Infrastructure.
- The Utility Reform Network.
- Electromagnetic Health.
- Smart Meter Dangers, a project of Center for Electrosmog Prevention.

Dozens of advocacy groups met Oct. 5-6, 2011, in Washington, D.C. The speakers and sponsors of this conference are possible sources for your coverage.

- Wireless Safety Summit.

IN THE NEWS

One example of media coverage of the smart grid issue that provides an overview of many political, economic, historical, health, and technological aspects is:

- "The Problems with Smart Grids," originally in CounterPunch, March 18, 2011, by B. Blake Levitt and Chellis Glendinning.

For many other examples of media coverage of the smart grid and smart meters, search:

- Environmental Health News.

As indicated by the discussion above about Gro Harlem Brundtland, smart meters are just one of the latest electrical devices of concern to people with electrical hypersensitivity. Though these concerns have been expressed for decades, there is little data documenting whether the number of people being affected may be increasing with the rapid expansion in the number of wireless devices and the geographic areas affected. This and many other aspects of electrical hypersensitivity are fodder for additional media coverage, and some of the sources noted above may be helpful.

One related angle is that the U.S. Supreme Court has been pondering whether to hear a class action case (technically known as multidistrict litigation) involving cell phones. The case involves a suit against 19 defendants, primarily cell phone manufacturers and telecommunications companies. The suit is being led by the Public Citizen Litigation Group's Allison Zieve.

- "Cellphone Study Raises Profile on Safety Lawsuits," Reuters, June 1, 2011, by Dan Levine.

Any Supreme Court decision might influence the FCC, which has considered whether to eliminate the current telephone landline system and have everyone use wireless or wired broadband. If that strategy is adopted, and wireless is the dominant system, that could seriously impair the ability of people with electrical hypersensitivity to communicate.

Reprinted from: <http://www.sej.org/publications/tipsheet/many-are-claiming-health-problems-caused-smart-meters?mid=5267>

Levitt/Lai Study

Environmental researcher Blake Levitt and Henry Lai, Ph.D., Dept. of Bioengineering, University of Washington, recently reviewed and cited the long list of studies and research that have been done on the effects of low-level radiation on human health and biology. In their peer-reviewed study, they included a discussion about smart grid technologies and human health, and the failure of the outdated FCC's public exposure standard for acceptable RF radiation:

It remains to be seen what additional exposures "smart grid" or "smart meter" technology proposals to upgrade the electrical powerline transmission systems will entail regarding total ambient RFR increases, but it will add another ubiquitous low-level layer. Some of the largest corporations on earth, notably Siemens and General Electric, are involved. Smart grids are being built out in some areas of the U.S. and in Canada and throughout Europe. That technology plans to alter certain aspects of powerline utility metering from a wired system to a partially wireless one. The systems require a combination of wireless transmitters attached to homes and businesses that will send radio signals of approximately 1 W output in the 2.4000–2.4835 GHz range to local "access point" transceivers, which will then relay the signal to a further distant information center (Tell 2008). Access point antennas will require additional power density and will be capable of interfacing with frequencies between 900 MHz and 1.9 GHz. Most signals will be intermittent, operating between 2 to 33 seconds per hour. Access points will be mounted on utility poles as well as on free-standing towers. The systems will form wide area networks (WANs), capable of covering whole towns and counties through a combination of "mesh-like" networks from house to house. Some meters installed on private homes will also act as transmission relays, boosting signals from more distant buildings in a neighborhood. Eventually, WANs will be completely linked.

*Smart grid technology also proposes to allow homeowners to attach additional RFR devices to existing indoor appliances, to track power use, with the intention of reducing usage during peak hours. Manufacturers like General Electric are already making appliances with transmitters embedded in them. **Many new appliances will be incapable of having transmitters deactivated without disabling the appliance and the warranty.** People will be able to access their home appliances remotely by cell phone. The WANs smart grids described earlier in the text differ significantly from the current upgrades that many utility companies have initiated within recent years that already use low-power RFR meters attached to homes and businesses. Those first generation RFR meters transmit to a mobile van that travels through an area and "collects" the information on a regular billing cycle. **Smart grids do away with the van and the meter reader and work off of a centralized RFR antenna system capable of blanketing whole regions with RFR.***

*...It makes little sense to keep denying health symptoms that are being reported in good faith. Though the prevalence of such exposures is relatively new to a widespread population, we, nevertheless, have a 50 year observation period to draw from. The primary questions now involve specific exposure parameters, not the reality of the complaints or attempts to attribute such complaints to psychosomatic causes, malingering, or beliefs in paranormal phenomenon. That line of argument is insulting to regulators, citizens, and their physicians. **Serious mitigation efforts are overdue.***

*...It might be more realistic to consider ambient outdoor and indoor RFR exposures in the same way we consider other environmental hazards such as chemicals from building materials that cause sick building syndrome. In considering public health, we should concentrate on aggregate exposures from multiple sources, rather than continuing to focus on individual source points like cell and broadcast base stations. In addition, **whole categorically excluded technologies must be included for systems like Wi-Fi, Wi-Max, smart grids, and smart metering as these can greatly increase ambient radiation levels.** Only in that way will low-level electromagnetic energy exposures be understood as the broad environmental factor it is. **Radiofrequency radiation is a form of energetic air pollution and it should be controlled as such.** Our current predilection to take this one product or service at a time does not encompass what we already know beyond reasonable doubt. Only when aggregate exposures are better understood by consumers will disproportionate resistance to base station siting bring more intelligent debate into the public arena and help create safer infrastructure. That can also benefit the industries trying to satisfy customers who want such services. Safety to populations living or working near communications infrastructure has not been given the kind of attention it deserves. Aggregate ambient outdoor and indoor exposures should be emphasized by summing up levels from different generating source points in the vicinity. **Radiofrequency radiation should be treated and regulated like radon and toxic chemicals, as aggregate exposures, with appropriate recommendations made to the public including for consumer products that may produce significant RFR levels indoors.***

...The present U.S. guidelines for RFR exposure are not up to date. The most recent IEEE and NCRP guidelines used by the U.S. FCC have not taken many pertinent recent studies into consideration because, they argue, the results of many of those studies have not been replicated and thus are not valid for standards setting. That is a specious argument. It implies that someone tried to replicate certain works but failed to do so, indicating the studies in question are unreliable. However, in most cases, no one has tried to exactly replicate the works at all. It must be pointed out that the 4 W/kg SAR threshold based on the de Lorge studies have also not been replicated independently. In addition, effects of long-term exposure, modulation, and other propagation characteristics are not considered. Therefore, **the current guidelines are questionable in protecting the public from possible harmful effects of RFR exposure and the U.S. FCC should take steps to update their regulations by taking all recent research into consideration without waiting for replication that may never come because of the scarcity of research funding.** The ICNIRP standards are more lenient in key exposures to the population than current U.S. FCC regulations. The U.S. standards should not be "harmonized" toward more lenient allowances. The ICNIRP should become more protective instead. **All standards should be biologically based, not dosimetry based as is the case today.**

Exposure Standards Table: From the Prove-It website; read more about the FCC standard, <http://www.justproveit.net/content/safetystandards>

...In general, the place aim to accomplish a maximum exposure of 0.02 V/m, equal to a power density of 0.0001 μW/cm², which is in line with Salzburg, Austria's indoor exposure value for GSM cell base stations. Other precautionary target levels aim for an outdoor cumulative exposure of 0.1 μW/cm² for pulsed RF exposures where they affect the general population and an indoor exposure as low as 0.01 μW/cm² (Sage and Carpenter 2009). In 2007, The BioInitiative Report, A rationale for a biologically based public exposure standard for electromagnetic fields (ELF and RF), also made this recommendation, based on the precautionary principle (Bioinitiative Report 2007).

Nation	Exposure Limits from Wireless Transmitters
USA standard	580 microwatts
Russia	10 microwatts
China	6 microwatts
Italy	5 microwatts
Switzerland	4.2 microwatts
Salzburg, Austria	.1 microwatt
Lichtenstein	.1 microwatt

Source: NRC Research Press, "Biological effects from exposure to electromagnetic radiation emitted by cell tower base stations and other antenna arrays," published in Environmental Reviews, Vol. 18: 369-395 (2010): <http://rparticle.web-p.cisti.nrc.ca/rparticle/RpArticleViewer?handler=HandleInitialGet&journal=er&volume=18&calyLang=eng&media=html&articleFile=a10-018.pdf>



For Distribution:

January 26, 2012

The American Academy of Environmental Medicine has adopted a resolution calling for a halt to wireless smart meters.

The full text of the resolution is below. A hard copy on letterhead is available on the AAEM website at www.aaemonline.org.

From the AAEM website:

Who We Are

The American Academy of Environmental Medicine was founded in 1965, and is an international association of physicians and other professionals interested in the clinical aspects of humans and their environment. The Academy is interested in *expanding the knowledge of interactions between human individuals and their environment*, as these may be demonstrated to be reflected in their total health. The AAEM provides research and education in the recognition, treatment and prevention of illnesses induced by exposures to biological and chemical agents encountered in air, food and water.

AAEM's January 23, 2012 statement represents the first national physician's group to look in-depth at wireless health risks; and to advise the public and decision-makers about preventative public health actions that are necessary.

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Proposed Decision of Commissioner Peevey (Mailed 1/22/2012) BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
On the proposed decision 11-03-014



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Exhibit 'J'

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January 19, 2012

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Decision Proposed Decision of Commissioner Peevy (Mailed 11/22/2011)
BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
On the proposed decision 11-03-014

Dear Commissioners:

The Board of the American Academy of Environmental Medicine opposes the installation of wireless "smart meters" in homes and schools based on a scientific assessment of the current medical literature (references available on request). Chronic exposure to wireless radiofrequency radiation is a preventable environmental hazard that is sufficiently well documented to warrant immediate preventative public health action.

As representatives of physician specialists in the field of environmental medicine, we have an obligation to urge precaution when sufficient scientific and medical evidence suggests health risks which can potentially affect large populations. The literature raises serious concern regarding the levels of radio frequency (RF - 3KHz – 300 GHz) or extremely low frequency (ELF – 300Hz) exposures produced by "smart meters" to warrant an immediate and complete moratorium on their use and deployment until further study can be performed. The board of the American Board of Environmental Medicine wishes to point out that existing FCC guidelines for RF safety that have been used to justify installation of "smart meters" only look at thermal tissue damage and are obsolete, since many modern studies show metabolic and genomic damage from RF and ELF exposures below the level of intensity which heats tissues. The FCC guidelines are therefore inadequate for use in establishing public health standards. More modern literature shows medically and biologically significant effects of RF and ELF at lower energy densities. These effects accumulate over time, which is an important consideration given the chronic nature of exposure from "smart meters". The current medical literature raises credible questions about genetic and cellular effects, hormonal effects, male fertility, blood/brain barrier damage and increased risk of certain types of cancers from RF or ELF levels similar to those emitted from "smart meters". Children are placed at particular risk for altered brain development, and impaired learning and behavior. Further, EMF/RF adds synergistic effects to the damage observed from a range of toxic chemicals. Given the widespread, chronic, and essentially inescapable ELF/RF exposure of everyone living near a "smart meter", the Board of the American Academy of Environmental Medicine finds it unacceptable from a public health standpoint to implement this technology until these serious medical concerns are resolved. We consider a moratorium on installation of wireless "smart meters" to be an issue of the highest importance.

The Board of the American Academy of Environmental Medicine also wishes to note that the US NIEHS National Toxicology Program in 1999 cited radiofrequency radiation as a potential carcinogen. Existing safety limits for pulsed RF were termed "not protective of public health" by the Radiofrequency Interagency Working Group (a federal interagency working group including the FDA, FCC, OSHA, the EPA and others). Emissions given off by "smart meters" have been *classified by the World Health Organization International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) as a Possible Human Carcinogen.*

Hence, we call for:

- An immediate moratorium on "smart meter" installation until these serious public health issues are resolved. Continuing with their installation would be extremely irresponsible.
- Modify the revised proposed decision to include hearings on health impact in the second proceedings, along with cost evaluation and community wide opt-out.
- Provide immediate relief to those requesting it and restore the analog meters.

Members of the Board
American Academy of Environmental Medicine

Assessment of Radiofrequency
Microwave Radiation Emissions from Smart Meters

The following has been extracted from the "Assessment of Radio frequency Microwave Radiation Emissions from Smart Meters" published by Sage Associates, Santa Barbara, CA on January 1, 2011. The 100 page study can be found at: http://sagereports.com/smart-meter-rf/docs/Smart-Meter_Report.B-Tables.pdf

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

This Report has been prepared to document radiofrequency radiation (RF) levels associated with wireless smart meters in various scenarios depicting common ways in which they are installed and operated.

The Report includes computer modeling of the range of possible smart meter RF levels that are occurring in the typical installation and operation of a single smart meter, and also multiple meters in California. It includes analysis of both two-antenna smart meters (the typical installation) and of three-antenna meters (the collector meters that relay RF signals from another 500 to 5000 homes in the area).

RF levels from the various scenarios depicting normal installation and operation, and possible FCC violations have been determined based on both time-averaged and peak power limits (Tables 1 - 14).

Potential violations of current FCC public safety standards for smart meters and/or collector meters in the manner installed and operated in California are predicted in this Report, based on computer modeling (Tables 10 - 17). Tables 1 - 17 show power density data and possible conditions of violation of the FCC public safety limits, and Tables 18 - 33 show comparisons to health studies reporting adverse health impacts.

FCC compliance violations are likely to occur under normal conditions of installation and operation of smart meters and collector meters in California. Violations of FCC safety limits for uncontrolled public access are identified at distances within 6" of the meter. Exposure to the face is possible at this distance, in violation of the time-weighted average safety limits (Tables 10-11). FCC violations are predicted to occur at 60% reflection (OET Equation 10 and 100% reflection (OET Equation 6) factors*, both used in FCC OET 65 formulas for such calculations for time-weighted average limits. Peak power limits are not violated at the 6" distance (looking at the meter) but can be at 3" from the meter, if it is touched.

Smart Choices About Smart Meters: Critical Issues to Consider in Deciding Whether to Opt Out

Exhibit 'A'

Posted on July 5, 2011 by Smart Meter Safety Coalition

A public service brought to you by the Smart Meter Safety Coalition

Now that the Maine Public Utilities Commission has ruled that it is “unreasonable” for Central Maine Power to force every customer to accept a wireless meter, and that it is “in the public interest” for customers to opt-out, here’s a candid look at the information you won’t find in CMP’s promotional materials.

It’s information you need to decide whether the purported benefits of a smart meter outweigh the documented risks to health, safety, privacy and cybersecurity.

Here’s why people, communities and governments around the world are rejecting smart meters:

- **Radiofrequency interference causing malfunctioning of wireless equipment such as Wi-Fi and Netflix**
- **Radiofrequency interference causing malfunctioning of medical equipment such as pacemakers and wireless insulin pumps**
- **Radiofrequency spikes causing appliances to break**
- **Health effects like migraines, nausea, vomiting, muscle spasms, heart palpitations and sleeplessness caused by intense bursts of radiofrequency radiation that has just been classified as a “possible carcinogen” by the World Health Organization — in the same category as lead, engine exhaust and DDT**
- **Cybersecurity breaches**
- **Excessive billing**
- **Interception of personal identity information**
- **Electrical fires**

Here’s a more in-depth look at the problems associated with wireless smart meters:

RADIOFREQUENCY INTERFERENCE

Smart Meters have caused Wi-Fi, Netflix, security systems, appliances, and other equipment to malfunction and break. Interference with electronic devices (home office printers, fax machines, scanners, computers, television and cable settings, etc.) has been reported after smart meter installation.

Appliances and devices that are electrically connected in the home (plugged into home electrical wiring) can experience radiofrequency bursts of high enough intensity to cause malfunction and/or damage.

CMP has received more than 100 complaints about interference, and has hired a subcontractor to deal with these problems. However, the company has failed to follow the PUC’s order to prominently feature in its opt-out communications the phone number customers can call for help in dealing with these interference problems.

Smart meters interfere with radios

Smart meters interfere with cordless phones, baby monitors, other household devices

MEDICAL DEVICE MALFUNCTIONS

Wireless radiofrequency radiation from smart meters can cause medical devices to stop working. Medical implants such as pacemakers and deep-brain stimulators used to control the shaking of Parkinson’s disease can be turned off by the radiofrequency interference (RFI) caused by the signal. These signals are already reported in published studies to interfere with critical care equipment, ventilators, pain pumps, wireless insulin pumps and other medical devices.

http://www.emrpolicy.org/regulation/united_states/7jan2011_doj_ada_olhoeft_comment.pdf

<http://www.youtube.com/user/EMRPolicyInstitute#p/u/13/SymnXTNh8Ms>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/EMRPolicyInstitute#p/u/14/XrETLgwPljQ>

HEALTH EFFECTS

Exhibit 4

Dizziness, migraines, nausea, vomiting, muscle spasms, insomnia and heart palpitations are some of the symptoms reported around Maine and around the world after smart meter installation. Smart meters transmit throughout the neighborhood in intense bursts, thousands of times during the day and night. Scientists have compared the intensity of each burst to 100 times the radiation from a cell phone.

Prominent Maine doctor links patient's symptoms to smart meter installation

World-renowned public health physician urges people to keep their analog meters

Transmitting smart meters pose a public health threat

Smart meters causing symptoms worldwide — read studies, symptoms, testimonials and more

The World Health Organization recently classified this type of wireless radiation as a "carcinogenic hazard," putting it in the same possibly-cancer-causing category as engine exhaust, chloroform and DDT

Unlike cell phones and Wi-Fi, smart meters and the neighborhood collectors are involuntary exposure, and cannot be turned off.

The type of radiation emitted by a smart meter can cause changes in the biology of the body. This radiation promotes degenerative diseases and premature aging even at levels of below FCC limits.

Numerous other risks to human health from radiofrequency/microwave (RF/MW) radiation exposure, particularly to children and people with disabilities, at levels below the current FCC limits are summarized in articles published in the March 2009 issue of Pathophysiology.

Smart meters send and receive wireless RF/MW signals throughout homes and businesses. These smart meter RF/MW levels are far higher than those already reported to cause health risks. Compliance is not safety, since the existing FCC safety limits are under challenge, and have already been called 'insufficient to protect public health' by some federal agencies.

CYBERSECURITY RISKS

Experts find smart meters subject to security breaches, hacking

Top analysts say smart meters represent a "worst-case scenario" in terms of security and cyber attacks

Smart meter software company found guilty of data theft

Wireless communications are far less secure than wired communications

Concerns about the security of the US electrical grid have received widespread media coverage (*Wall Street Journal*, April 27, 2009). Smart meters present a new vulnerability to intentional sabotage as well as to inadvertent access to private information, since the network is wireless and it adds direct linkage to home computers and personal data.

The wireless network proposed to enable smart grid and smart meter technology is a full-saturation, full-coverage blanket of RF/MW radiation into every home and business that can increase the points of entry to malicious software (malware), to electrical service disruption or disconnection, and to terrorist attack on the electrical and communications grid throughout the US (*Wired.com*, March 4, 2010).

CNN launched a "Cyber Shockwave" program on February 20, 2011, that detailed national concerns over the security of the Internet and of wireless communications, which makes us vulnerable to loss of the electrical grid, Internet and wireless communications across the country. Banking, transportation and the electrical grid had the biggest vulnerabilities.

INCREASED CHARGES

Exhib, f ' 2 '

5,200 Houston residents overcharged because of smart meters

PG&E replaces 1,600 defective smart meters that inflated customers' electric bills

In addition to overbilling issues, many experts also warn that smart meters could cost consumers more money than they will save. *Consumers Digest* (Feb. 2011) did an investigative report exposing the fact that in order to fully utilize the smart meter home area network (HAN) that monitors how much electricity is used by different appliances, customers will have to spend hundreds if not thousands of dollars in new appliances, each one outfitted with its own transmitter.

PRIVACY VIOLATIONS

Smart meters can identify personal habits, make burglars smarter

The use of wireless networks to transmit information and data leaves open the potential for misuse of personal data, billing and usage information, and other private information.

Privacy breaches have already been documented (illegal access of 179,000 accounts at Hydro Toronto, for example).

NO ENERGY SAVINGS

Connecticut Attorney General George Jepsen studied that state's smart meter pilot program and concluded that there was no energy savings.

"The pilot results showed no beneficial impact on total energy usage," Jepsen said. "And, the savings that were seen in the pilot were limited to certain types of customers and would be far outweighed by the cost of installing the new meter systems," he said. "Also, the existing meters, installed between 1994 and 2005, have a useful life of 20 years and replacing them early would incur additional costs for customers," Jepsen said.

ELECTRICAL FIRES

Smart meters cause arcing, interfere with Ground Fault Interruptors (GFIs) and have been implicated in fires, especially in homes with older wiring

A California fire department captain saves his home from potential smart meter fire

OPTING OUT

Now that you know the serious and documented risks, it's up to you whether to pay the \$12 per month opt-out fee to keep your existing meter (the "electro-mechanical" option listed below). If you haven't already, you will soon be receiving this opt-out correspondence from CMP, giving you 30 days to decide which type of meter you want.

While we don't believe that anyone should have to pay to protect their health, safety, security, or privacy — or to avoid exposure to a possible carcinogen within their own home — we also believe that a paid opt-out is better than no opt-out, considering the risks.

You'll see that CMP lists another option (Option A), which is a wireless meter with the transmitter turned off. It's \$1.50 per month cheaper than keeping your existing meter, and while it doesn't eliminate *all* the risks, we see it as a much safer alternative to the standard wireless smart meter.

Thanks for getting informed!

www.smartmetersafety.com

<http://smartmetersafety.com/2011/07/05/smart-choices-about-smart-meters-critical-issues-to-consider-in-deciding-whether-to-opt-out/>

August 28, 2011

Exhibit 'L'

Taking our Country Back One County at a time!

Filed under: Most Recent Posts — thearizonasentinel @ 1:17 pm

In 2002, we moved to Arizona. Two weeks later Arizona experienced the largest wildfire in its history. This year that fire damage was exceeded by the Wallow Fire. The question is Why. Having lived thru the Rodeo Chediski fire, and studying the issues, such as forest management, fire suppression, fire fighting, specifically with aircraft. I came to some obvious conclusions. The western states were under attack by Environmental groups, USDA, BLM, Interior Department, Sierra Club, Nature Conservancy, State agency failures and an uneducated group of County Commissioners not just in Arizona, but in every state in the Union. Well that's all changing now.

Over the past nine years, we have seen the process of taking our country back one county at a time. Otero County New Mexico and the County Commissioners there have steadily been working on restoring the authority granted to them by the U.S. Constitutional. In short the authority to oversee and manage county land within their boundaries lies with in the power of the County Sheriff and the County Commissioner. The authority that can exist outside of the County Sheriff and the County commission exists by a Granting of said authority by the County Sheriff and the County Commissioner. In addition any authority granted to any agency out side of the Sheriff and Commission, does not go into perpetuity. To many people falsely believe that the ultimate authority exists in Washington DC. Remember, the Local Government Elected body is the Grantor, the State and Federal government is the Grantee. Period.

So here is the news that will shake up every county, for certain, in every county in the 17 western states. On September the 17 2011. There is going to be a Tree Cutting ceremony, Lincoln National Forest we do not have an exact location at this time. Sanctioned and authorized by the Otero County Commissioners, led by Commissioner Rardin, and Sheriff Benny House. U.S. Congressman Steve Pearce will personally cut down the first tree. Congressman Steve Pearce is the Chairman of the Western Caucus. We are looking for constitutional common sense support from this caucus going forward. There will be several hundred there, from New Mexico, and Arizona, including myself. A logging company from the state of Washington will be there and will continue with the thinning of Lincoln National forest. Bringing with them a ready to go sawmill.

A study was done back in 2001 by Doc Garrett that concluded that Lincoln National Forest was the worst managed forest in the United States and faced massive damage from wild-fire not to exclude devastation to life, liberty, and private property as well. In that study, the Apache/Sitgreaves National forest came in second. However in 2002 the Apache/Sitgreaves National forest lost 489 thousand acres of prime timber, lives, wildlife and property damage, and again in 2011 the Wallow fire consumed in excess of 500 thousand acres of prime timber, several homes, wild life and property damage also. Several years ago, the Otero County commissioners had the wisdom and spine to refuse those traitors that were wanting to designate Lincoln National Forest as a World Heritage Site. It's unfortunate that Arizona and Colorado failed to save the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone National park from that same fate. But stand by, it aint over.

So to sum up, many of these issues that local, county and state governments have turned over to the federal government. Americans now understand more and more, that Washington DC is not the answer. We now have Sheriffs all over the west stepping up, Sheriff Paul Babeau Pinal County Arizona, Sheriff Joe Arpio Maricopa County Arizona, Sheriff Glenn Palmer Grant County Oregon, Sheriff Benny House Otero County New Mexico, Sheriff Louis Burkhard, Sierra County Sheriff Joe Baca. These Sheriffs are the cornerstone for your protections under the Constitution.

Many of us that have been fighting the failures of the Federal Government thru their agencies such as the US forest service, blm, department of ag, and department of interior. Have long waited patiently for the events that are unfolding every day.

America, this is our country, it does not belong to the beltway or anyone, any agency, any political party or president. It belongs to "We the People". Let us never forget that.

So on September 17 2011, lets all show our support for life, liberty, and private property. Join Congressman Steve Pearce, the County commissioners, led by Ronnie Rardin, County Sheriff Benny House, in this historic, revolutionary event. An event that will jump-start local economies thru out the west, by returning to the proper management of our forest lands. Providing jobs, lumber for homes, preserving water and other natural resources that have been under threat for decades. It's a good time to be alive in the West.

Our next post will be related to a recent May 1st unanimous Supreme Court decision. That will surprise and encourage all legitimate property owners and taxpayers in America. As soon as the decision is published we will send it out.

Bruce Olsen The Arizona Sentinel
Navajo County Arizona