

From: Joshua Hart <joshuanoahhart@googlemail.com>
Subject: Smart Meter Report- comment
Date: January 27, 2011 2:44:38 PM PST
To: ccst@ccst.us

California Council on Science and Technology
1130 K Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear CCST,

Your draft report, "Health Impacts of Radiofrequency from Smart Meters" is biased, incomplete and unscientific. The taxpayers of the state of California deserve their money back. Your report symbolizes what happens when the interests of industry trump the public's interest in protecting our health. The truth is that people are getting hurt by the significant increase in wireless radiation that is being inflicted on communities throughout California. The 'smart' meter program is a major part of that. What a sad outcome for a supposedly 'green' project. Your obstinate refusal to consider evidence that is directly in front of your eyes is not only unscientific—it betrays a lack of curiosity- and furthermore your report will go down in history as enabling an abuse of human rights here in the United States and abroad.

Many others who are far more qualified than myself have pointed out omissions and inconsistencies contained within the report. So I will keep my comments brief. Specifically:

- There are thousands of studies on the non-thermal effects of microwave radiation. But I'd like to focus on just one- Henry Lai's 1996 study on DNA breakages at the University of Washington, published in the International Journal of Radiation Biology. His research- as you must know by now- showed that DNA breakages occurred in the brain cells of rat brains exposed to very low levels of rf. These results have been replicated a number of times with the same results. **On that one particular issue, the best scientific research we have indicates that low levels of rf can indeed break apart DNA strands.** That would be reason alone to restrict the use of wireless technology until such time as we can better learn why this happens and protect biological systems from such damage. Instead, further research was shut down, funding taken away, and further investigations into this critical issue were discontinued. You say there is 'no conclusive evidence' that there are non-thermal impacts from radiation. How "conclusive" does evidence need to be before policymakers act to protect public health? Your recommendations that we wait until such time as the science is 100% certain is a perfect recipe to repeat the past policy failures that led to the deaths and illnesses of thousands from unnecessary x-rays, exposure to asbestos, and cigarette smoking.
- Your report failed to discuss the condition known as Electro-hypersensitivity (EHS), a functional impairment that is legally recognized in such countries as Sweden. The fact that a growing proportion of the population suffers when exposed to rf levels far below FCC limits has tremendous moral and legal implications for rolling out a mandatory technological system that has driven people from their livelihoods and homes. Yet these concerns remain unaddressed in your report.
- For a so-called 'health' study, your project team did not include any medical or health professionals. Feedback by those people who did have expertise in this field- particularly those who had expertise on the biological effects of rf radiation were systematically excluded from the report. Can you please

explain this?

- Your report states that, “Health concerns surrounding RF from smart meters are similar to many other devices that **we** use in our daily lives, including cordless and mobile telephones, microwave ovens, wireless routers, hair dryers, and wireless enabled laptop computers.” I do not know who this “we” is that you speak of. I personally do not use any of the devices you mention, and that is my choice as an individual. Many other people also choose not to use such devices because of an electrical sensitivity or other reasons. The authors of the report appear to share the limited world view and arrogance of the CPUC Commissioners and utilities in assuming that everyone chooses to live as you do. People do not have any choice currently not to have a smart meter on their home. This is a substantial difference in terms of the morality of applying new technologies, and one that is not acknowledged in your report.
- Your team failed to interview even one of the more than 2000 people who have filed health related complaints about smart meters with the CPUC. In any legitimate investigation, at least a sample of those reporting health symptoms would be interviewed. Yet this was not done, due to your panel being unqualified to carry out these type of epidemiological investigations- or for other reasons. Some of the hundreds of reports that we have received through our website, stopsmartmeters.org, are attached as appendix 1.

In summary, I would like to say first of all that it is sad that the CA legislature chose your organization to prepare a report on the health risks of wireless technology. Your mission statement of “maintaining California's technological leadership and a vigorous economy” is a very different goal than protecting the public’s health and safety. When those goals contradict one another, I am not reassured that your organization has the ability to be objective. Now that I have read your draft report, I am certain of your inability to maintain objectivity in the face of billions in potential profit.

When your family members and friends, or you yourselves are suffering from an affliction brought on by overexposure to microwave radiation, perhaps you will individually question the recommendations in your report as you lie awake at night.

Organizationally, I have no faith that this will ever happen.

Sincerely,

Joshua Hart
Director, StopSmartMeters.org

Cc: Assemblymember Jared Huffman
Assemblymember Bill Monning
Governor Jerry Brown
Congressman Sam Farr

Appendix 1

Following are excerpts of the hundreds of reports of health damage received by our site:

E-mail : patti

Comment:

thanks for this site.

two weeks ago they installed smart meters on our row of townhouses.

a few days later i felt dizzy; this changed to heart beat very strong - occasional racing - and now ringing in ears and pressure in chest as well. Dizziness subsided but have been waking up at 4 am and can't get back to sleep.

there are also about 20 meters about 75 feet from my house; i look at them in a line of sight.

i seem to have been way more affected when they actually installed them in our block of 7 townhomes even though i am slightly further away from this meter box collection. it's like it comes in through the wires.

Those other ones were installed in Nov. or Oct. and i remember feeling nausea and more migraines from those.

a few times a day we get this awful screeching too.

i have been in a panic wondering where in Marin I can move?

if it's gov't mandated then does it matter if we complain?

i also heard that PGandE could have installed all kinds of meters like cabled ones instead.

ps i never knew anything about smart meters until it happened to me. where can we go to escape, this is so scary.

thanks

Health-related comments from stopsmartmeters.org

E-mail : Next@guideyou.com

URL :

Whois : <http://whois.arin.net/rest/ip/71.202.224.244>

Comment:

I for the past 2 weeks have not been sleeping well and waking up every night! I have documented emails in that I have written in the middle of the night to my older friends asking - as we get older are others finding that they cannot sleep well anymore. I have been analyzing my lifestyle trying to figure out what and why a cannot sleep. I have even taken aspirin in the mid of night when I wake from a low level headache? Then today I hear a news cast that the Smart Meters maybe causing sleeping problems for people. Holly Smokes I now realize that the Smart Meeter was installed at the time all this started. My head in my bed is 12 feet away from the SM and my kids bunk bed is right on the wall with the SM on the outside wall with only 8 inches of separation!

What do I do? Is this the cause? It fits the time frame that all this started to happen!!!

EDP Corte Madera CA

Steven Golden

torch369@yahoo.com

75.80.161.146

Submitted on 2010/11/20 at 3:59 am

On September 29, 2010 at least 4 Smart Meters were installed on my apartment building on the wall just below my Unit. That very day I woke up with a swollen wrist for absolutely no physical reason. I opened my front door and found the notice that the Smart Meters were installed.

My wrist and hand swelled so badly that I had to get a cortisone shot. Then, I got sick with sinus problems and a respiratory attack. One occurred after the other, and both conditions are still with me 3 weeks later. I have never been sick for more than one week in my entire life. I have heart palpitations and an erratic heart beat, along with insomnia. The latest affliction since the Meters were installed is Phantosmia, which I have never had before and will not go away.

I am EMF sensitive and these Smart Meters are ruining my health, my living conditions, and my life. We are being bombarded with Microwave EMF from these Meters from all directions without our knowledge or consent. Since I am EMF sensitive I have chosen to never use WiFi or any other wireless technology in my apartment. With these Smart Meters I have no say in the matter and I am being slowly tortured by SDGE and the CPUC. This is an outrageous intrusion into our lives and a danger to the health of everyone in San Diego and wherever these Meters operate. Those of us who are EMF sensitive have an early warning system built in and we know what these meters are doing to our health. Those who aren't as sensitive or may not realize that they are will not realize that the Meters their utility forced upon them are making them ill and even slowly killing them.

deadcowkid@hotmail.com

71.142.85.47

2010/11/16 at 4:54 pm

I live in Aptos and there is a large smart meter right behind my wall. Everyone in this house is disabled. And everyone has been having similiar symptoms of extra exhaustion, headaches, some skin issues etc. My mother wont even use a cell phone. When I tell her about this she will flip. How can I get this thing removed!

Trisha

trishale@sonic.net

76.191.155.84

2010/11/14 at 11:53 pm

I just recently made an appointment for them to come, as I did not want surprises with my pge going off which can cause harm to things plugged in, like a gray-out can do damage. Today, I received this e-mail, and I called to cancel the appointment, telling her I don't want wireless radiation as I am a cancer survivor. She said it is mandatory. Then I asked, "are you saying you will force this on me?"

She gave me the number for Wellington to call them, and I made a sign I will attach in case they don't get the

message that I do not want this Smart Meter installed.

If necessary, I will go to the doctor to get a note that I am a cancer survivor and don't need extra radiation that can cause cancer. Also, I will call the numbers above tomorrow during normal business hours.

sanri

sanri@linuxwaves.com

86.26.17.66

2010/11/14 at 12:52 am

Wow...good news. I've been keeping an eye on the progress with this issue & await a due outcome; especially here in the UK i know goverment are just gagging to roll them out – i am a stroke survivor (with heart condition) & dread them. I like many others are with u in spirit/my prayers are with you.

Dan

hurk54@msn.com

67.187.235.69

2010/11/12 at 2:37 pm

I was amazed when I found out that smart meters could possibly affect some people.

I can't remember exactly when it started but my hearing has changed with a wierd kinda high pitch ringing when turning up the volume on tv radio etc almost to a point where it hurts. All I know is that my hearing isn't the same and I can't hear as well.

I was also involved in a rearend accident that I assumed was the problem to my hearing change around the time so it's anyones guess.

I'm not saying that the smart meters are causing my problems but it is intresting to know of this and I guess I need to do more investagating before I can place any blame.

Just my thoughts and I thank the general public for taking a stand in case the meters are causing old guys like me one more problem with growing old..

I do not suffer any other of the sytoms except sleep problems and terrible headaches now but I will check and see if the meters were installed around the same time as the accident I was involved in.

I have never been one to get headaches so I have to wonder.

Dan

Aurora Levins Morales

aurora@historica.us

70.36.234.212

2010/11/08 at 9:02 am

I moved into a house in September that had just had a Smart Meter installed. I have filed a complaint with the PUC and PG&E with a letter from my doctor, asking that they remove it. I have epilepsy and there is a study that they can increase seizures.

Michelle

facemichelle@gmail.com

173.87.39.30
2010/09/08 at 9:12 pm

Hi, how do I find where to protest in Arizona? I just called my local utility company and they ARE installing these meters in my area (they've already started but I don't know if I have one yet--what do they look like, how can I tell?). When I called, I was told that there is no opting out, but then asked if there is a reason why I don't want one: I replied that I am EMF sensitive and can't be around wifi, etc., that they emit radiation like cell phone towers, and that I will get migraines (I believe this to be true because I am Disabled from MCS/chemical sensitivity (I get migraines from common chemicals like fragrances) and I already have mild EMF sensitivity wherein I get headaches from cell phones and computer wifi). With my already-compromised health, I believe I am extremely susceptible to getting sick from these meters. I am awaiting a call back from the head meter guy...

Sc Bear
santacruzgoods@gmail.com
99.170.151.244
2010/09/02 at 11:57 pm

I stopped the instalation of the meter on my property, . Pge called me and said I was threatening them after I told them that my 2 year old has had problems sleeping since MOST of my neighbors meters were installed. They TRIED to scare me straight, Not going to happen,, DO NOT LET PGE INSTALL on your property. These are Not good. I have Lost what little respect I had for pge, Now they will NOT be allowed on my property,,, good luck,,, WHERE ARE OUR LOCAL REPS ON THIS ISSUE,, Lets vote them OUT for doing a great job of doing NOTHING!

Geoff Bohm
gir@yhoo.com
66.245.48.194
2010/08/29 at 2:59 am | In reply to tammie donnelly.

They also give me a lot of pressure in my head and ears and a high pitch ring in my ears that drives me crazy.

Since the meter was installed here, I've been having pressure on the head too, along with a high pitched ring. I was wondering what the cause could be, but now that you mention it, it makes sense.

Let's pray for teh miracle we need

We need to demand that our reps get these things taken out. No one should be forced to have to install these.

tammie donnelly
tammiedonnelly.com
emfhelp@yahoo.com
67.180.248.90
2010/08/29 at 12:33 am

Every time I walk into a business or home with a Smart meter I can only stay a short while since these meters

make me feel so weak and sick.

They also give me a lot of pressure in my head and ears and a high pitch ring in my ears that drives me crazy.

We have to get an emergency injunction ASAP to save us and our lovely environment.

Let's pray for teh miracle we need,
Tammie

geri
hotwheels@brainerd.net
64.90.93.138
2010/08/21 at 5:32 pm

Hello,

We live in Minnesota, we got a samrt meter nearly a year ago.....and we are have a vary hard time with it as well as the elc, co.

Is there anyone in Minnesota that is having the same problem, is there anyone we can contact? Where do we start?

We were thinking of writting a letter and putting it in the news papper but dont cared to get sued...The elc com. is biggger then we are.But we sure have a story to tell!

Geri

from RE <repsz425@yahoo.com>
reply-to RePsz425@yahoo.com
to joshuanoahhart@gmail.com (Yes, this is you.) Learn more
date Mon, Dec 6, 2010 at 7:57 AM
subject last week's install
mailed-by yahoo.com
signed-by yahoo.com

hide details 7:57 AM (3 hours ago)

Had one of these smart meters installed last week.

- 1) It of course shut down the electricity for a couple minutes.
While I was in the shower. Not very pleasant.
- 2) It cancelled my DVR recording of The Man In The Iron Mask on Verizon FIOS.
So when I watched it the next day....I got to see about 40 minutes of the movie.
Which then ended. Not very pleasant.
- 3) I rented the movie above instead on Blockbuster.com. At a cost. Not very pleasant.
- 4) My bedroom is next to the meter above the garage. I could not sleep the first night.
Not very pleasant.
- 5) I moved to a bedroom on the opposite corner of the house. Rather disruptive. Not very pleasant.
- 6) Reset all the blinking clocks about the house.

For your documentations....and study.

R E Pszczolkowski
repsz425@yahoo.com

from CrKuz3@aol.com
to joshuanoahhart@gmail.com (Yes, this is you.) Learn more
cc Starr2bheld@aol.com
date Fri, Dec 10, 2010 at 1:48 PM
subject How to Stop Smart Meters from taking over
mailed-by aol.com

hide details Dec 10 (3 days ago)

Dear Joshua,

I live in Northern California (15 miles south of Eureka) and we had a consultant for PG&E give us a dissertation on the Smart Meter. This meeting was done on December 1, 2010.

The gentleman who conducted the meeting was not an employee of PG&E, but rather was a consultant who was hired as "the fall guy".

Unfortunately, I live in a town where the City Council members are either ignorant of the news about the harmful effects of the Smart Meters, or flatly they "don't give a damn"

I am a disabled senior who has lived in my home for over 35 years, and I cannot afford to move (Even if I could, I was told that the Smart Meters would be installed all over the globe).

Please let me know if there is a group of concerned citizens who do not want these Meters to be a permanent part of their lives, of which my life has already been significantly altered for the worse.

I am plagued my this incessant high-frequency noise which I hear all day long. I have had my son and a friend listen, but they told me they can't hear what I am describing to them. My friend told me he works with high pitched machinery as part of his job, and probably has a hearing loss.

I even went to my health care provider to see if in fact the problem lies exclusively with me. Her suggestion, believe it or not, was to play a radio, or another source of sound, to drown out the high frequency sound. To me this is torture, not being able to sleep, nor do anything else without being subjected to this constant noise. As I stated in my blog, my neighbor who lives about 65 feet to the rear of my home has already had a Smart Meter installed. I haven't been able to ask them when it was installed. But if my calculations are correct it was probably within the last six weeks or so. (This is the time when I first noticed these high-frequency noises permeating my entire house).

And as I stated before, I can't just pick up and move.

Please help me, if you can. I can't believe there is nothing any one of can do about this escalating problem.

Very truly yours,
Carole Kuzan

from Kao Saetern <ksaetern@gmail.com>
to joshuanoahhart@gmail.com (Yes, this is you.) Learn more
date Wed, Jan 5, 2011 at 12:13 PM
subject SmartMeters
mailed-by [gmail.com](mailto:)
signed-by [gmail.com](mailto:)

hide details 12:13 PM (2 hours ago)

Hi,

I saw your posting about stopping the smart meters. I would like to be included in your mailing list of important protest or gathering coming up for 2011.

I live in a condo with over 150 units and after the installation of PG&E smart meters, my girlfriend and I have been experiencing different health related symptoms. I have difficulty sleeping at night. I thought it was due to stress. I would wake up and go to work feeling light-headed and fatigue. I purchased two foamed mat to place over my bed thinking that it would help me sleep better but it didn't work. Just recently, my girlfriend, who is only 24 years old with no past health problems had a terrify seizure in the middle of the night which I witnessed. We spent hours in the emergency room and doctors performed various testes and they say there's nothing wrong with her.

I believe that these PG&E smartmeters are the cause and would like to find out more information about it.

Sincerely,

Kao Saetern

Next@guideyou.com

71.202.224.244

Submitted on 2011/01/13 at 6:07 am | In reply to Susan B.

I for the past 2 weeks have not been sleeping well and waking up every night! I have documented emails in that I have written in the middle of the night to my older friends asking – as we get older are others finding that they cannot sleep well anymore. I have been alalizing my lifestyle trying to figure out what and why a cannot sleep. I have even taken aspirin in the mid of night when I wake from a low level headache? Then today I hear a news cast that the Smart Meters maybe causing sleeping problems for people. Holly Smokes I now realize that the Smart Meeter was installed at the time all this started. My head in my bed is 12 feet away from the SM and my kids bunk bed is right on the wall with the SM on the outside wall with only 8 inches of separation!

What do I do? Is this the cause? It fits the time frame that all this started to happen!!!

EDP Corte Madera CA

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Joshua Hart
Director, Stop Smart Meters!
<http://stopsmartmeters.org>