

From: [Olemara Peters](#)
To: [UTC_DL_Records_Center](#)
Subject: DOCKET U-180117 - reply to WUTC's questions
Date: Monday, March 12, 2018 5:31:43 PM
Attachments: [PastedGraphic-2.png](#)

DOCKET U-180117 Smart Meter Installation Opt-In/Opt-Out

Comments from: Olemara Peters

Date: March 11 2018

Dear WUT Commissioners,

Thank you for focusing on this topic! There will be a lot more people who'd like to comment once they hear that you're doing so. Thank you for slightly-extending the comment period. I'm told you'll have further workshops on this topic, may people still be entered as Interested Parties, and should they/we continue to submit AMI comments to this Docket #?

Please see also

— my March 8 submission, <U-180117-Cmt-Olemara Peters.pdf> (also copied below, for convenient reference)

— my next email, "DOCKET U-180117 - AMI repelling wild birds "

Below are my comments to your "QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION" (in **red** as I was instructed).

1. Should companies be required to offer customers the choice to opt-out of smart meter installation at their premises? Alternatively, should customers affirmatively opt-in?

Opt-In — or, preferably, “smart” meters should be banned, until their bioimpacts, and their problems with privacy, security (household and regional), safety, billing accuracy and records, replacement-costs (compared to analog), etc., are resolved (and I don't mean resolved just according to the industry and utilities). Also, companies should be required to provide accurate information (provided by independent researchers) — not just total industry sales-talk, as is currently the case.

2. Should companies be required to offer all customer classes the choice to opt-out or opt-in for smart meter installation?

All customer classes should be able to Opt-In — including, opt not to.

3. What company estimates, if any, have already been developed for how many customers would choose to opt-out or opt-in for smart meter installation?

Well, that would depend on how many customers they expect to be able to deceive (as to the setup's health-costs (to humans, other species, and ecosystems), safety-, privacy-, security-, and monetary costs), wouldn't it? (Which so far appears to be most of the people, most of the time.)

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Smart Meter Benefits

4. What challenges do the companies face based on different levels of opt-in and opt-out (e.g., 1 percent, 5 percent, 25 percent) and what smart grid benefits are either reduced or eliminated at these levels?

I haven't yet heard of any actual benefits except to utilities' and meters-manufacturers' pocketbooks.

5. For those customers who select to opt-out of, or decline to opt-in to, smart meter installation, what types of services or benefits would they be forgoing?

None that can't be accomplished without this setup's damages to health, privacy, household and regional security, fire-safety, and billing-reliability.

Costs

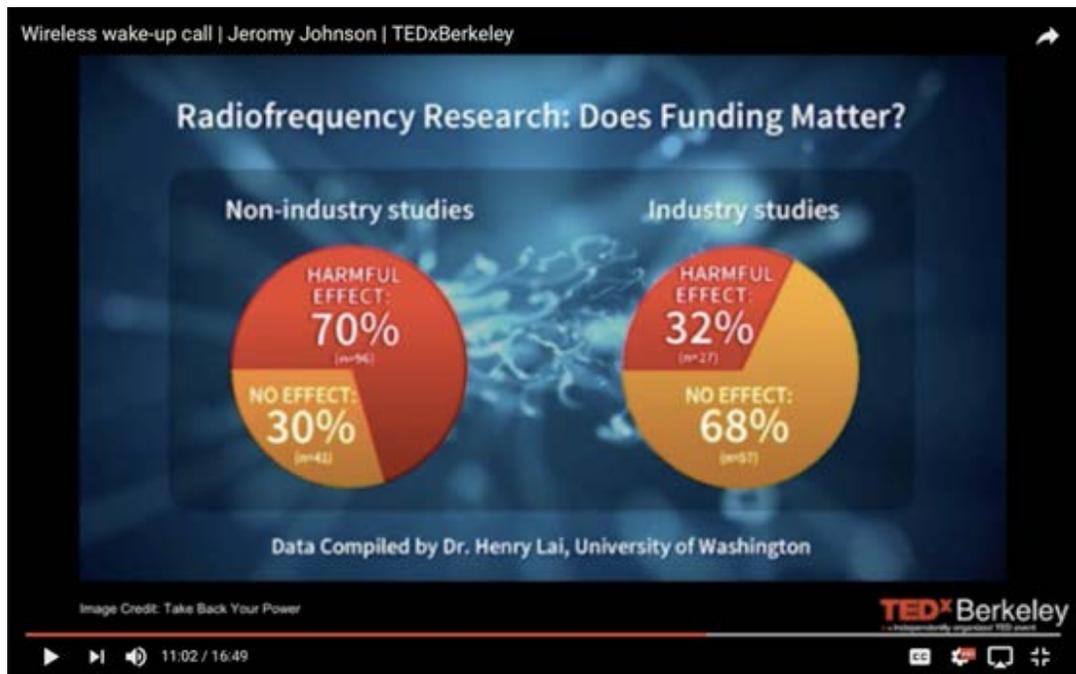
6. What types of costs are associated with offering an analog/existing meter opt-out option?
7. Are costs a function of the number of customers choosing to opt-in or opt-out?
8. Should all costs associated with the opt-out choice be paid by the individual customer making that election or should some portion of those costs be allocated to all ratepayers and/or to company shareholders?

For a start, it should be Opt-In (if not banned outright). And then all costs should be borne by the proponents — the meters-manufacturers and the participating utilities.

They will of course claim that the public are calling for the setup. A straight answer about that requires looking at how they — and the wireless industry at large — have been miseducating the public and legislators. That miseducation includes (for just a few examples)

— defunding and suppression of research demonstrating RF bioharm, — see, for instance,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F0NEaPTu9oI>



(and after that, Dr. Lai's research was defunded — case in point).

— the Telecomm Act of 1996, Sec 704

— staffing of regulatory agencies by revolving-door with industry,

— spurious RF “safety standards” — e.g. the FCC’s (not even “standard, but “guideline” — plus, the FCC is not a health agency in the first place, but only a trade group — how does it have standing for RF safety?): counting only damage by “tissue heating,” in a human adult male 6’ tall, at a distance of 6’, for 6 minutes. Most exposures, and expose-ees, don’t fit within this narrow description.

It’s very common, too, for misadvertising/miseducating industries to blame the people who uptake the miseducation. For instance, remember the ads some years ago for adjunct credit-cards for family members -- specifically, for teenagers? (Including a cute scenario about a boy who’d used his to buy a helicopter, and was arguing with his parents about curfew-time because he wanted to be able to fly his girlfriend home first...)

Remember the objections raised by parents-groups, that this was misteaching kids? And did you hear the industry representative replying (on NPR), “Everyone knows these are just cute things to get attention. Any kid who doesn’t recognize that, is obviously two sandwiches short of a picnic.”

I’ve already paid out thousands of dollars for healthcare and household-mitigations necessitated by the AMR's that PSE imposed on my house and neighborhood in 1999 and has never yet removed (or even helped mitigate) from even my house (let alone never corrected their miseducating of everyone else — so, I still get the transmissions from neighbor’s meters too).

Replacing AMR's with two-way transmission, and ever-higher-frequencies

(resettable by PSE remotely, thus potentially without notifying me — let alone without my permission — resettable by a company that has already been denying, for 19 years, the bioimpacts they're imposing on me) is not going to reduce such costs-to-me. Why should the industry have a right to charge me a fee to refrain from imposing this pollution-source (and privacy-and-security breach, fire hazard, etc.) on my house — even while still cranking out more of same pollution through also the neighboring meters?

And further re costs, I've been mentioning costs to other species —> ecosystems. Besides 19 years of PSE's AMR's, I have another instance in-my-face, just as much in need of Opt-In and ability to decline — to choose to keep an analog meter. It's described in my next comment-email, "DOCKET U-180117 - AMI repelling wild birds."

Fees

9. What fees (one-time/recurring) should be assessed to customers who elect to opt- out and should the fees be assessed on a per-meter or per-location basis?

See point 8.

10. If a monthly fee component is included, should there be a limited duration for companies to recover the incremental costs associated with the customer's choice to retain an analog/existing meter?

See point 8.

11. If a one-time or up-front fee is required, should the companies be required to offer a payment plan?

See point 8.

12. If recurring opt-out fees are assessed with each meter reading, should alternative meter reading schedules be adopted to reduce the opt-out fees paid by the customer (e.g., bi-monthly, quarterly, or annually with budget billing)?

See point 8. Moreover, industry has been claiming, at the same time, that the system will (by increasing utilities' access to customers' use-info) reduce utilities' costs....

13. Should fees differ based on whether the customer is selecting to opt-out of a smart meter for a single service (e.g., electric or natural gas) or both services?

See point 8. Excuse me, utilities should be paying customers the costs of "smart" meters' polluting.

14. Should there be a fee imposed on customers who elect to opt-out and later desire to have a smart meter installed?

See point 8. And I can think of only 2 reasons that someone who'd opted-out might change his mind:

- a) his budget can no longer afford the extortion, so he feels forced for financial

reasons to agree to the polluting installation (however, I can attest, after 19 years, that that would be a very poor bargain); or
b) the industry, and the utilities that are going along with it, finally gains enough integrity to welcome honest researchers and help develop telecomm technology that's actually biocompatible (for humans and other species and the biosphere). Whenever that happens, it will be delightful! I live in hope! And you, the WUT Commissioners, have an opportunity to nudge things a step closer to that day.

15. Should opt-out fees be a separate line item on a customer's bill?

See point 8. While I'd disagree with extra charges for any of this — if they are going to happen, they should certainly be displayed separately and clearly-labeled.

16. Should more than one opt-out option be offered to customers who do not wish to have a wireless smart meter (e.g., a digital non-communicating meter)? If so, should the cost differ based on the type of meter selected?

The cost already differs — an analog meter needs replacing, on average, only every 40 years — as distinct from AMIs' estimated 10-15 years (and I've heard other estimates, down to 6-7 years... and is any of this counting in the AMI's that set housefires ?). I believe I've heard that the "digital non-communicating meter" has a similarly short life. That cost should not be imposed on customers (who aren't choosing to get rid of analog meters in the first place — except to the extent that they've uptaken industry misinformation).

17. Should customers with smart meters be offered the opportunity to relocate the smart meter to another location on their premises? If so, should the customer pay the cost of relocation?

The relocation should be paid for by whatever party necessitates it. If the necessity has arisen due to bioeffects or other issues with "smart" meter (AMR or AMI — or related "digital non-transmitting" meter, which has in some instances also been found to be transmitting after all — or any other substitute for analog meter), then the utility should pay. If, instead, the need is due to organizational changes on the part of the customer (unrelated to the meter-substitution) — e.g. remodeling — then it's reasonable for the customer to pay. If the city is using eminent domain to take off that end of the house to put a road through, then the city should pay. If the neighbor kids hit a baseball through the meter, then their families or they should pay. Etc.

Customer Communication

18. What form(s) of communication should the companies employ to advise customers of their smart meter installation options, and what type of information should be communicated?

Enclosures with mailed bills; email; phone; preferably all 3.

Information should include schedule, fees, options, and also links to independent information-sources, including (for instance)

— www.bioinitiative.org

- www.ehtrust.org
- www.electromagnetichealth.org

and 2 presentations by the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco:

— **(2013) Getting Smarter About the Smart Grid**

— <http://gettingsmarteraboutthesmartgrid.org>

— http://gettingsmarteraboutthesmartgrid.org/the_high_road_to_a_true_smart_grid_video

— <http://electromagnetichealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Smart-Grid-Report-3-15-13.pdf>

— **(2018) NEW REPORT: “Re-Inventing Wires: The Future of Landlines and Networks”**
<http://electromagnetichealth.org/electromagnetic-health-blog/wires-long-press-release/>

— **Overpowered**, by Martin Blank Ph.D (includes some description of the decades of research into RF bioimpacts related to cancer, and industry’s denial/discrediting processes)

Also I’d commend, at least to **the WUTC’s** attention (even if unlikely that **the polluting industry** would ever post it), the research led by Martin Pall Ph.D, showing another of the avenues of **nonthermal RF** harm: disruption of cell-membranes’ ion channels, VGCC’s (voltage-gated calcium channels). Here’s a link to 8 of his papers:
<https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=NHTSA-2016-0126-0102>

Thank you for your attention! and thanks to your office for posting our comments!

Sincerely,
Olemara Peters
Redmond, WA

From: Olemara Peters <claricom@frontier.com>

Subject: Re: Docket U-180117

Date: March 8, 2018 at 5:01:58 PM PST

To: comments@utc.wa.gov, records@utc.wa.gov

March 8 2018

Re: Docket U-180117 and PSE's request to install AMI

Dear WUTC,

Please DO NOT approve PSE’s call for permission to install AMI “smart” meters!

Already I’ve been suffering layers of health-destruction effects from PSE's AMR’s (“Automatic Meter Reading”), for nearly 19 years. They were installed (on my house and neighborhood) June 3 1999. I was busy that day, and told myself "It’ll be

OK, it'll have to be OK, I can't fit anything else into workload." But by 3 am the first night, it was quite clearly not OK, and never has been since. On average I'm 3 hours sleepless per night (starting that night — from previously-usual 7-9 hrs' good sleep), and the hours of more-nearly "sleep" are of impaired quality... with all the effects of lacking-normal-repair-time accumulating since. I've spent endless money and time on mitigations, and on healthcare for the effects the mitigations don't suffice for. All of these efforts remediate, I'd estimate, 20-30% of the emissions' impacts to my health.

I'd already had to move away from Queen Anne Hill, in 1986, to get away from similar impacts from the QA broadcast towers. I found good refuge, in Redmond for 13 years — good sleep, and recovered a lot of my health — till the first night after PSE installed AMR's here.

I've never gotten any recourse from PSE. Their (instead) claims/excuses included — "The signals don't pass through the house walls." This is geometrically ridiculous. Most meters face narrow side-yards, and the "neighborhood relays" are spaced every 1/3-1/4 mi. Signals (if blocked by house-walls) wouldn't be able to reach "neighborhood relay" unless street were a semicircle with relay in the middle. My street, and most streets, are instead straight; — "It doesn't put out any more energy than a cellphone" (part of the industry's trivializing/concealment of the meters' aggressively-concentrated pulses — you could likewise average a bullet's energy over 5 minutes or so, and it too wouldn't puncture anything) —

and in any case, I don't carry a microwave ("cell") phone, and I keep my house landlined (free of WiFi); the AMR is actually the nearest and probably-strongest RF source — neighboring AMR's and WiFi's are the second-strongest.

PSE — and other members of the "smart" meters industry — also regularly conceal the number of transmissions for a given period, by giving instead only the number of "reads" (ignoring that the meter transmits much oftener than HQ actually collects and reads a transmission).

On the rare occasions when I get to sleep in a more electropeaceful location, even for a night or two,

— the tinnitus backs off

— I recover some enzymes-secretion — don't need usual digestive supplements.

That need resumes promptly with 1st night back at home,

— I begin to recover some ability to concentrate.

The rest of the AMR's cumulative destructions-of-my-health will evidently require longer electropeaceful repair-time.

There are countless good resources documenting — in addition to "smart" meters' bioimpacts — their shortcomings as to privacy, security, energy, economy, and fire-safety. Here's just one set:

<http://gettingsmarteraboutthesmartgrid.org>

http://gettingsmarteraboutthesmartgrid.org/the_high_road_to_a_true_smart_grid_vid_eo

<http://electromagnetichealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Smart-Grid-Report-3->

[15-13.pdf](#)

AMI's are also more likely (than AMR's) to be "daisy-chained" — numerous households' info routed through one household — could result in many times (hundreds of times?) higher exposure for some households -- without telling the occupants.

AMI's are also (unlike AMR's) two-way, can receive as well as send. This means

- increased emissions of PSE's communications TO each household's meter (plus cumulatively through whatever daisy-chain)
- PSE can change frequencies, pulse-patterns, etc. — as well as daisy-chain setups
- remotely, without even a site visit (let alone other notification). The only part of this that citizens have yet begun to talk about is that PSE may start imposing "time of use" limits, and be able to turn off power to any household at will — or to individual appliances, via built-in IoT ("Internet of Things") chips. (True, already it's getting hard to find appliances that are verifiably free of such chips — an added electropollution-source, even if there weren't the privacy concern.)

Please protect Washington's households (including mine) and bioregions' biodiversity, from all the forms of destruction outlined at the above websites, for a start — please protect my home from this trespassing technology — please deny PSE permission for AMI's!

Thank you.
Olemara Peters
Redmond, WA