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To: [Ann E. Rendahl](mailto:Ann.E.Rendahl@utc.wa.gov)  
Subject: [WUTC - WA STATE GOVERNMENT/UTILITIES PLAN STATEWIDE DEPLOYMENT OF DANGEROUS "SMART" METERS/5G](mailto:Ann.E.Rendahl@utc.wa.gov)  
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 5:25:26 PM  
Attachments: [image001.png](mailto:Ann.E.Rendahl@utc.wa.gov)  
[image002.png](mailto:Ann.E.Rendahl@utc.wa.gov)  
[image003.png](mailto:Ann.E.Rendahl@utc.wa.gov)

Please file in Docket U-180117.

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Subject: WA STATE GOVERNMENT/UTILITIES PLAN STATEWIDE DEPLOYMENT OF DANGEROUS "SMART" METERS/5G



What is being planned is a state-sponsored, state-wide deployment -- this time through the investor-owned energy utility corporations **Puget Sound Energy, Avista, Pacific Power & Light (Pacific Power), Northwest Natural Gas and Cascade Natural Gas** -- rather than being limited to city/county-owned utilities/rural energy cooperatives as in the past -- of those electromagnetic weapons/greenwashed surveillance devices known as **two-way communicating digital wifi "smart" utility meters/Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)**, and the even more **dangerous 5G Wifi**. These are soon to be inescapably deployed in/our homes, workplaces and public spaces **throughout Washington State without our consent** -- that is, unless we move very fast to stop this **NOW**.

Please archive this article that includes several key evidentiary documents to read and pass on to others as soon as is humanly possible. **This is to warn as many as can be/will be warned of the urgent danger to we the people of Washington State from the imminent statewide, state-sponsored, state-coordinated deployment of dangerous digital devices -- specifically digital wifi "smart" utility surveillance meters/AMI and 5G Wifi throughout our state, and throughout our now-threatened lives -- without our consent.**

For more information, please contact **Safe Utility Meters Alliance-Northwest (SUMA-NW)** at [info@safemeters.org](mailto:info@safemeters.org) at 206-926-9600; **StopSmartMeters.org** at [info@stopsmartmeters.org](mailto:info@stopsmartmeters.org) or at 888-965-6435; **FreedomTaker.com** at [atfeedback@freedomtaker.com](mailto:atfeedback@freedomtaker.com) or at 818-843-3667; or use the **webforms** provided at **TakeBackYourPower.net/InPowerMovement.com**. You can contact the author of this article at [rebeccaphb@yahoo.com](mailto:rebeccaphb@yahoo.com) or at 206-926-3962.

In spite of the US corporate-controlled mainstream media blackout on "smart" grid dangers, some media sources have recently begun to report on these issues. Please also read/watch these recently published articles/transcripts/videos from three fairly mainstream news sources: **Democracy Now!, National Public Radio (NPR), The Nation and Mercola.com**, as well as the award-winning documentary **Take Back Your Power** for more information about this urgent issue of "smart" utility meters/AMI and 5G wifi in the weblinks below:

**Take Back Your Power-1st Version-2013; Current Version (2016) Available on Website of Same Name Above**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2uMfx-FsJiE&list=PLu4KvqUADo7UV8SixePs14TyplUqyG7I5>

**Democracy Now!-How the Wireless Industry Convinced the Public Cellphones Are Safe and Cherry-Picked Research on Risks-April 6, 2018**

[https://www.democracynow.org/2018/4/5/how\\_the\\_wireless\\_industry\\_convinced\\_the?utm\\_source=Democracy+Now%21&utm\\_campaign=fa62ac3881-Daily\\_Digest&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_fa2346a853-fa62ac3881-190275757](https://www.democracynow.org/2018/4/5/how_the_wireless_industry_convinced_the?utm_source=Democracy+Now%21&utm_campaign=fa62ac3881-Daily_Digest&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_fa2346a853-fa62ac3881-190275757)

**Democracy Now!-How Big Wireless War-Gamed the System on Risks, to Make the Public Addicted to Their Phones-April 6, 2018**

[https://www.democracynow.org/2018/4/5/how\\_big\\_wireless\\_war\\_gamed\\_the](https://www.democracynow.org/2018/4/5/how_big_wireless_war_gamed_the)

**National Public Radio (NPR)-Wireless Industry Lobbies States in Preparation for New 5G Wifi Technology-April 10, 2018**

<https://www.npr.org/2017/04/10/523336443/wireless-industry-lobbies-states-in-preparation-for-new-technology>

**The Nation-How Big Wireless Made Us Think That Cell Phones Are Safe: A Special Investigation-April 2018**

<https://www.thenation.com/article/how-big-wireless-made-us-think-that-cell-phones-are-safe-a-special-investigation/>

**(Dr.) Mercola.com-Cellphones/Other Digital Devices Strongly Linked to Cancer -- New Independent Study Reproduces US Government Findings-April 10, 2018**

[https://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2018/04/10/cellphone-radiation-linked-to-brain-heart-tumors.aspx?utm\\_source=dnl&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=art1&utm\\_campaign=20180410Z1\\_UCM&et\\_cid=DM198946&et\\_rid=271564334](https://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2018/04/10/cellphone-radiation-linked-to-brain-heart-tumors.aspx?utm_source=dnl&utm_medium=email&utm_content=art1&utm_campaign=20180410Z1_UCM&et_cid=DM198946&et_rid=271564334)

Thank you for your consideration of this message, and of the four others included below as supporting evidence:



**Participant Report-Washington State Public Utilities & Transportation Commission/Staff (WUTC) Workshop With Investor-Owned Utility Representatives/Members of the Public on "Smart" Utility Meter/AMI Opt-In/Opt-Out Docket No. U-180117-April 10, 2018**

On March 14, 2018, I was at the last minute told by a community activist colleague in Seattle that the **Washington State Public Utilities & Transportation Commission (WUTC)** was going to be having a **workshop on digital wifi "smart" utility meters/Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)** at their headquarters in Olympia. This **WUTC workshop** -- about which our community activist network had not been informed -- was going to be held by the **WUT Commissioners** and staff with **representatives of the five state investor-owned utilities** over which the commission has authority. The topic of this **WUTC workshop** concerned what for all of us is an extremely important issue: our ability **not to have** these dangerous greenwashed digital surveillance devices imposed on our homes/workplaces/public places, through a government-mandated **opt-in and/or opt-out process** being available through these investor-owned energy utility corporations.

After spending over two early morning hours on the phone with a most cooperative **WUTC** receptionist and two cooperative staff members on March 14, I was able to ascertain the time of the afternoon workshop on the day following, how to submit online comments before the deadline of 5:00 PM that day, and that the public would be welcome to attend and -- if there

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were time near the end -- possibly speak to those assembled. I was thereby able to get word out to community activist networks in the Thurston/Mason County and Seattle/Pierce/King/Snohomish County areas, in time to elicit around 35 comments -- including my own -- by day's end. I also discovered that the reason that our community networks had not been informed beforehand was, that we had not registered on the WUTC website as "interested parties", and how in doing so, we would be duly informed of such WUTC events in the future; I communicated this to all of my community activist colleagues as well.

When a friend from Mason County and myself, representing Thurston County, arrived for the WUTC workshop at 1:30 PM on March 15, 2018, we were cordially greeted by the receptionists and staff. We took our seats at the open bottom of a "square horseshoe" of tables, with the three commissioners facing us at the upper center table, flanked at the other two tables by several WUTC staff members and around ten representatives from the state's investor-owned utilities. We also had the unexpected pleasure of being joined soon after the workshop had started by two community activist colleagues from Seattle/King County.

The three WUT Commissioners and staff seemed -- unlike some other public officials and their staff members with whom we have had to deal in the recent past -- professional and fair in how they comported themselves with the private utility representatives. They seemed unafraid to ask and discuss detailed, difficult questions, and to expect competent, candid responses in return, which they seemed to be receiving for most of their inquiries, seeming unafraid to ask for more details if they gauged they had not received this to their satisfaction.

At about 3:00 PM, when much of the workshop agenda had been covered, the WUT Commissioners and staff invited us members of the public present to rise and address them and the utility representatives -- refreshingly, without the usual draconian time limits -- to express our own ideas and questions about the "smart meter"/AMI opt-in/opt-out policy and the workshop proceedings. **All of us strongly urged those present equally strongly to consider at the very least a no-cost/low-cost opt-out policy, with an opt-in policy being, we felt, by far the optimal choice for most of the people in this state. We also said we had grave objections to many other major aspects of AMI/"smart" meters that were vital to their decision-making process, and therefore needed to be heard as well. I personally stated that I did not appreciate the fact that Puget Sound Energy (PSE) -- in whose territory I now resided -- had not been particularly forthcoming with me when I had asked them several times during the past 2.5 years whether or not they were planning to deploy "smart" meters/AMI in their their service area, and they had several times deceptively told me that they were not planning to do so -- statements completely contradicting what their own representatives had been during this WUTC workshop.**

The commissioners and staff thanked us for being there, said they would carefully consider our input, and told us we would be welcome at their next meeting in July 2018, where we would be able to present evidence for our broader concerns about "smart" utility meters/AMI health, safety, privacy and financial issues. They also expressed regret that we had not received prior notice of this WUTC event, indicating that we would have it in the future, now that we were properly registered with them as "interested parties". The WUTC workshop was officially adjourned at around 3:30 PM, with some discussion with staff and members of the public immediately afterward.

**Below are key excerpts from the official statement, as well as a weblink to, the full official statement, of the Washington State Utilities & Transportation Commission concerning its rule-making recommendations for investor-owned utilities' "smart" meter/AMI opt-out -- as opposed to opt-in -- policies in this state, dated April 10, 2018.**

It closely reflects what we saw them discuss in the workshop with the utility company representatives, as well as what we the members of the public discussed with them there. **Included are some contextual comments concerning the commissioners' recommendations for opt-out -- instead, as we had emphatically recommended to them, opt-in -- and why we respectfully disagree with this decision. -- REC**



Key Excerpts-Washington State Public Utilities & Transportation Commission(WUTC)  
Workshop/ WUTC's Official Statement on  
"Smart" Utility Meter/AMI Opt-In/Opt-Out Policy-Docket U-180117-April 10, 2018  
Emphases/Contextual Comments Added

Full Official WUTC Statement Found Here: <https://www.utc.wa.gov/docs/Pages/RecentOrders.aspx>

**Investor-owned utilities regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) — Avista Utilities (Avista) (sister corporation to BC Hydro, already well-known to a number of Washington State community activists. -- REC), Pacific Power and Light (Pacific Power), Puget Sound Energy (PSE), Northwest Natural Gas and Cascade Natural Gas — plan to begin deploying "smart" utility meters/advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) in Washington state as early as August 2018. Utilities anticipate deploying different AMI technologies for electric and gas operations. For electric utilities, companies will replace existing analog or one-way meters with digital meters.**

The aforesaid electrical utilities all plan to replace all one-way non-communicating meters with digital two-way communicating meters. Existing gas meters will remain in place, but utilities will attach a communication module. In advance of such deployment, the Commission initiated this docket to gather information and review options for and existing practices concerning the policy of customer choice for meter installation, i.e., customers choosing to opt in or opt out of receiving an advanced meter.

The Commission issued a Notice on February 16, 2018, seeking comments on this topic, and held a workshop on March 15, 2018, to discuss policies related to AMI customer choice. The Commission will address other policy issues related to AMI deployment, including, but not limited to, data privacy, remote disconnection, and customer notifications in a separate docket. (This is reportedly scheduled for July 2018. -- REC)

The majority of US state commissions have expressed a general preference for an opt-out customer choice policy.

Accordingly, the preference we express here must reflect our best judgment regarding the most effective means to balance consumer apprehensions about widespread deployment of advanced metering technology without lines. The Commission received 34 comments from public organizations and individuals in opposition to smart meter installation. Multiple comments submitted by the same person were counted as a single submission. **We weighed creating conditions or limitations that unreasonably curtail or impair the transformative benefits the technology may enable.**

In developing our policy preference, we afford significant weight to the comments offered by Avista and PSE, which effectively describe the negative impact an opt-in policy would have on the design, reliability, efficiency, and costs to deploy AMI technology. Requiring an affirmative opt-in policy would likely result in slow and noncontiguous acceptance of AMI within a company's service territory, and may serve to effectively eliminate a company's ability to pursue effective grid modernization strategies.

*(This is the very reason we need to insist on "opt-in" rather than "opt-out-- to stop this dangerous greenwashed globalist agenda in its tracks! -- REC)*

**We presume that residential utility customers comprise the majority of customers who would oppose advanced meter installation on their premises. No large commercial or industrial customers or their representatives responded to the February 16, 2018 Notice or participated in the March 15, 2018, workshop. We also assume that many large customers may find that the benefits of innovative dynamic pricing available with smart grid technologies outweigh any privacy concerns. (OR may remain ignorant -- due to the corporate-controlled mainstream media blackout on this issue -- of the many serious issues besides privacy that attends "smart" utility meter/AMI deployment. Accordingly, this policy statement applies only to the companies' treatment of residential customer choice for advanced meter installation.**

*(Notice something crucial for urban areas that this policy statement does NOT include: guidance for owners of residential apartment buildings -- where many city dwellers who may want to opt out would tend to live. -- REC)*

In balancing the companies' interests in smart grid-enabled technologies with customers interested in receiving the (*presumed -- REC*) benefits available through advanced meters, as well as those customers who do not wish to receive an advanced meter, **we prefer that utilities regulated by the Commission offer an opt-out option to their customers.** Our assessment of the record in this investigation, coupled with the conditions employed generally in other jurisdictions across the country, lead us to conclude that an opt-out approach for advanced metering technology is the appropriate framework for regulated utilities planning to deploy the technology, **subject to explicit requirements for protecting consumer information and usage, which we intend to implement in the next phase of this proceeding.**

*(Notice that they do not mention any of the urgent health, safety or financial issues here -- the very things that need to be emphasized, even were this to nullify part of the corrupt, lobbyist-drafted US Telecommunications Act of 1996! -- REC)*

**We expect each company pursuing AMI technologies to file an opt-out tariff with the Commission prior to installing any advanced meters in its Washington service territory in accordance with the guidelines established in this policy statement.**

**The Commission practices principle-based rate-making to set rates that are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.** (*These principles apparently do not include a government commission acting on behalf of consumer health, safety, and financial wellbeing. -- REC*) **One of those principles is the concept of cost causation, whereby the customer (or class of customers) that causes a cost pays that cost to the extent possible. While some opponents of advanced metering technologies argue the utilities are causing the cost of implementing AMI, the selection of metering equipment, like other utility plant equipment, is appropriately made by the utility.**

*(No -- actually it is not; those most directly affected by a decision are those who need to have the most say in that decision, and this means consent to that decision before it is effectuated. This is one of the "principles" of human freedom and basic human decency -- all too seldom followed by either corporate/government agencies or by private individuals, with great harm being done at all levels to our "free" society. Many of us "do not personally consent" to the deployment of "smart" meters/AMI or 5G wifi! -- REC)*

**As previously discussed, the Commission reviews the prudence of such investments only when the company requests cost recovery through rates.**

*(This is tragically short-sighted; the WUTC thereby fails to fulfill its presumed primary function: to help protect the health, safety, privacy and financial well-being of the people of Washington State in accordance with the Washington State Constitution. What about investments in human health, safety, privacy and financial well-being? -- REC)*

Companies have reported an assortment of costs associated with an opt-out choice, including meter reading expenses, reconnection costs, meter replacement costs, administrative costs related to manual billing, and information system costs to support non-communicating meters. These fees would be assessed as either a one-time fee or a recurring fee, depending upon the nature of the associated costs. As we discuss in more detail below, **any one-time fees or other up-front charges that companies seek to impose should be cost-based and mitigated to the fullest extent possible, so as not to create a disincentive for customers to select their preferred options.**

**The general basis for assessing a one-time fee is the cost of the meter used by the customer who opts out. In the event the company is replacing all meters within its inventory as part of its advanced meter deployment, there should be no additional cost for procuring a non-communicating digital meter assigned to an individual opt-out customer, since the entire customer base is receiving new meters. As with the costs of advanced meters, the costs of all new meters, including non-communicating meters, should be spread across all customers. Additionally, whether the customer's existing meter remains in place, or a non-communicating digital meter is installed, we do not find justification for a one-time fee for future meter replacement.**

*(The following WUTC Commissioners' guidelines on opt-out fees and customer communications about AMI/"smart" utility meters, however, do seem fair -- as far as they go -- which is not nearly far enough on the side of consumer choice.*

***This includes having an opt-in, rather than just an opt-out, which -- as the WUTC itself here admits -- would likely and appropriately end the greenwashed weaponized "smart" utility meter/AMI deployment agenda in this state! -- REC)***

During the March 15 workshop, several utilities stated their intent to charge customers who choose to opt out a one-time fee for the future cost of replacing the existing or non-communicating meter with a fully advanced meter when the customer moves from the residence. Meter replacement is a typical rate base item that is socialized across the residential customer class. **A meter replacement due to failure should be treated no differently than a customer with a non-communicating digital or analog meter moving out of the residence. In fact, the meter may be fully depreciated when the customer leaves the residence.**

Further, some companies have indicated that when an opt-out customer moves out of the residence, the company would automatically replace the non-communicating meter with an advanced meter. Companies should provide customers moving to a residence with an existing non-communicating meter the same information about their meter choice that customers received during the installation phase. If the new occupant chooses to retain the existing non-communicating meter, there should be no cost for that choice.

**Notwithstanding our preference that companies refrain from assessing one-time fees generally, it is reasonable to assess a one-time fee to customers who elect to opt out after the company has completed the advanced meter installation at their premises. This onetime fee should be no more than the company's actual cost to dispatch the necessary employees and the resulting operational expenses to replace the meter. No charge should be incurred for the meter itself. In the unlikely circumstance that the company experiences a significant number of functional, undepreciated meters being removed due to the opt-out program, the company may petition the Commission to recover the cost of those undepreciated meters. Additionally, in the event a customer opts out and then subsequently opts back in, the company may similarly petition the Commission to recover labor and other operational expenses.**

**We note that utilities and commissions in various jurisdictions offer consumers a choice to either retain the existing meter or receive a non-communicating digital meter. Indeed, during the March 15 workshop, Pacific Power informed the Commission that in its service territories with active AMI deployment, the company is leaving existing meters in place for those customers electing to opt out of advanced meter installation. Pacific Power also indicated it does not receive any manufacturer support for analog meters. Although "slowing" meters provide an advantage to the customer, we agree with Pacific Power's statement during the workshop that those meters have a negligible financial impact on a company. As analog or other existing meters fail, or new customers choose to opt out after the initial installation period, customers will receive a non-communicating digital meter replacement.**

**As noted above, it is up to a company to select standard meter equipment appropriate for its operations.**

*(Actually it is not; see previous contextual comments about this above. -- REC)* **That said, the Commission nevertheless prefers that companies allow customers to retain the existing meter -- a company's standard meter at the time it was installed -- until that meter fails.** Companies are encouraged to communicate the potential benefits of replacing an analog meter with a non-communicating digital meter to allow customers to choose the option that best suits their needs.

**Customer communication is vital to the successful implementation of any advanced metering infrastructure deployment. Timely communication across several media will help ensure customers are fully aware of the changes to their utility services. Information about customer choice for advanced meter installation is an important component of these communication efforts. We expect companies to provide general information and notices about AMI deployment and grid modernization efforts through bill inserts and on their websites. Companies should also issue individualized customer notices, which can be accomplished through a bill insert, separate mailing, door hanger, or electronic notification. The information provided in the individualized notices should include:**

**(1) an explanation of the company's infrastructure changes, (2) benefits of AMI and grid modernization upgrades, (3) an estimated timeline for installation in the customer's area, (4) an explanation of opt-out options, or where to find additional information, and (5) company contact information for further inquiries.**

**The Commission requires any regulated utility pursuing advanced meter installation to provide the Commission's Consumer Protection section staff with copies of all communication notices, preferably 30 days in advance of public distribution. This will inform Consumer Protection staff about the company's deployment and communication plan, allowing them to better address consumer inquiries. Consumer Protection staff will also review notices to ensure they comply with applicable rules.**

If a utility determines that an existing Commission rule would restrict it from filing an opt-out tariff consistent with the principles outlined in this policy statement, the company must file concurrently a petition for exemption from the conflicting rule pursuant to WAC 480-07-110. The need for amendments to existing Commission rules or adoption should be fully discussed. We commend Avista for its comprehensive draft outreach plan included with its comments as Attachment A.

Companies may electronically contact those customers who, under WAC 480-100-179 and WAC 480-90-179 for electric and gas respectively, have selected electronic notification as their preferred method of communication. We recognize that Avista intends to provide its initial customer notifications on or about May 1, 2018, and that a 30-day notice is not feasible in this instance. However, we expect Avista to provide the documentation as soon as possible, and request that all other companies follow the 30-day guideline. **Any request for new rules arising from changes in company operations relating to advanced meter or smart grid investments will be addressed through the Commission's formal rule-making procedures. As indicated in the February 16, 2018 Notice, the Commission intends to initiate that rule-making process within the next few months. (Again, probably in July 2018. -- REC)**

**The Commission issues this policy statement pursuant to RCW 34.05.230 and WAC 480-07-920. This statement contains principles to guide regulated utilities and the Commission as it exercises its regulatory authority to address company deployment of advanced metering infrastructure, specifically related to customer choice for advanced meter installation. This policy statement does not constitute an order binding upon either the Commission or the parties that may come before it in formal proceedings, nor is this policy statement an enforceable rule. Rather, the statement serves to demonstrate the current views of the Commission concerning utility customers' ability to opt out of a meter choice regardless of their reason for doing so, the fees companies may assess those customers for that choice, and the communications a company makes to customers regarding these options. (**

*Note the WUTC's copious disclaimers as to the actual authority of their official statement. So, if the Washington State Utility Commission as a state agency cannot actually regulate the actions of investor-owned utilities supposedly in its purview as part of its "rule-making" process, then what, exactly, is the purpose of this rather elaborate exercise? -- REC)*

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Follow the Money



**Evidence from Recent Primary Source State Government Documents:**

**Agencies of United States/Washington State Corporate Governments and Energy Utility Corporations in Washington State Are Acting in Collusion with the Wireless Industry to Enforce the Hazardous Greenwashed**

**Globalist "Smart" Grid Agenda on People of Washington State Without Their Consent**

**Washington State Department of Commerce Newsletter-Energy News-January 2018**  
<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Energy-January-2018-newsletter.pdf>

**Washington State Clean Energy Fund-Washington State Department of Commerce**  
<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/growing-the-economy/energy/clean-energy-fund/>

**Washington Department of Commerce Grid Modernization Program-2018-Relevant Facts:**  
**\$11 Million in State Grants-Washington State's National Grid Modernization Ranking Went from 29th to 17th in 2017**

*(Notice that this newsletter on statewide "smart" grid deployment does not come from the state corporate government's departments of energy or ecology, but from its Department of Commerce, showing that this agenda is likely linked, at least indirectly, to the global banking cartel, possibly through the funding function. -- REC)*

**Targeted toward public and private electrical utilities serving Washington State customers, utilities can partner with other public and private sector research organizations and businesses to apply for funding for projects that focus on:** the advancement of clean and renewable energy technologies, and **transmission and distribution control systems**; supporting integration of renewable energy sources, deployment of distributed energy resources, and sustainable microgrids; and, **increasing utility customer options for energy sources, energy efficiency, energy equipment, and utility services. Program refinement is beginning now and competitive funding is anticipated in Summer 2018.**

*(Notice how this date for funding so nicely coincides with the planned dates for starting statewide "smart" meter/AMI deployment in the official WUTC opt-in/opt-out policy statement cited above. -- REC)*

**Grants to Electric Utilities-2017**

Demonstration of energy storage and control technologies position Washington State companies as leaders in **grid modernization**, an important emerging worldwide market sector. **Since 2013, the state has invested \$14.3 million in smart grid projects that represent more than \$35 million in total investment by our state's largest electric utilities.**

Soon we'll push the envelope further on distributed power, with potentially game-changing advances in technology, resiliency and reliability. **We are on the forefront of entirely new systems and business models for delivering electricity.**

**The GridWise Alliance, a national organization focused on modernizing the nation's electricity system, issued their 4th annual Grid Modernization Index ranking the fifty states on "the degree to which they are moving toward a modernized electricity grid". The 2017 ranking showed Washington state moving up from 29th to 17th in the ratings. The Alliance made particular note that "an aggressive Clean Energy Fund is supporting improvement to the grid" in boosting the state's rankings.** The ranking system focuses on three major areas – grid operation, customer engagement, and state support – with more than sixty individual items considered. A full copy of the report is available at the GridWise Alliance website.

In addition to successful demonstration and deployment projects funded by the grid modernization portion of the state's Clean Energy Fund, **the State Energy Office has been working with the National Governors Association on their Grid Modernization Policy Academy. Academy staff from Commerce, the Utilities and Transportation Commission and the Governor's Office recently invited a group of utilities and industry representatives to a roundtable meeting to discuss how the state can better support ongoing and future grid improvement efforts.**

*(Notice that it is directly stated here that the Washington State Clean Energy Fund has been instrumental in so quickly upping the state's national "smart" grid deployment rankings, and that WUTC staffers, as well as other Washington State government staff and the National Governors Association, are working directly with the wireless and energy utility corporations to facilitate the globalist corporate "smart" grid agenda -- not to effectively regulate or even totally stop it -- as the wellbeing of the people of this state might actually demand. -- REC)*

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Follow the Money



Excerpt from a Summary of

**The American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)**  
**Authorizing \$787 Billion in Overall Federal "Smart" Grid Funding**  
**Title IV-Water and Energy-Section 405-"Smart" Grid**

Directs the Secretary of Energy, when implementing smart grid regional demonstration initiatives, to provide financial support to projects in urban, suburban, tribal, and rural areas, including areas where electric system assets are controlled by nonprofit entities and areas where electric system assets are controlled by investor-owned utilities.

Instructs the Secretary to: (1) establish a smart grid information clearinghouse to make data from projects and other sources available to the public; and (2) precondition funding upon utilization by such demonstration projects of available open protocols and standards (including those that are Internet-based). Extends the authorization of appropriations for the smart grid regional demonstration initiative indefinitely.

Increases from 20% to 50% the federal reimbursement match for qualifying smart grid investments under the Smart Grid Investment Matching Grant Program...

Revamps the rules and procedures governing the federal matching fund for smart grid investment costs. Requires as a condition of receiving a grant that recipients utilize open protocols and standards (including those that are Internet-based), if available and appropriate.