

# A METER THAT INCREASES COSTS NOW THAT'S DUMB

## IMMEDIATE SAVINGS?

Starting in July, BC Hydro is foolishly expecting homes and businesses to pay for new Dumb Hydro Meters.

The increased costs for a modernized grid need not include wireless smart meters and should not include costs to our health, privacy and security.

Before Dumb Meters, BC Hydro could already pinpoint outages and restore power.

- Remote shutoff will make it faster and easier for Hydro to cut your power.
- Dumb Meters will consume and waste more electricity with all-day all-night monitoring.
- Wireless mesh networks threaten health in new ways by exposing you and your family, neighbours and employees to microwave radiation.
- Dumb Meters conflict with safety, causing fires and wireless interference with security systems, surveillance monitors, intercoms and critical care equipment.

## KEEPING THE RATES HIGHER

Dumb Meters won't reduce how much energy you need, only reduce how much you can afford to use. Rates are already slated to go up 30% in 3 years. The \$1 billion start-up estimate, as well as high maintenance and security costs will be passed on to consumers. Dumb Meters will just take more money out of your pocket.

## KEEPING YOUR INFORMATION SECURE?

Similar to online banking systems, the data from the meters is secure and your privacy is protected UNLESS targeted by hackers. Is it likely? Consider recent reports of cyber attacks on major corporations. Governments are setting aside millions to billions of dollars for cyber security initiatives. Any predictions for the ongoing costs to ratepayers to secure our smart grid?

## SOME QUICK FACTS ABOUT YOUR NEW DUMB METER

### YOUR CURRENT METER

Doesn't communicate Wirelessly. Relies on estimated usage & on-site meter reading

No outage detection. One phone call does the same job, without radiation.

Manual on-site meter reading and meter connection keep meter readers employed.

No tamper detection

### YOUR NEW DUMB METER

Automated wireless communication uses microwave radiation that is harmful to health.

Automatically knows when your power is out. So do you. You don't need to pay for a meter to tell you that.

Two-way communication between a Dumb Microwave Meter and Hydro means no communication with you. The only input you have is \$\$\$ and your personal information.

Alarms to deter tampering at the meter won't eliminate meter bypass or hacking



***“Smart Meters are Stupid” Rally, June 22, 2011***  
**10AM outside BC Hydro Building, 333 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, BC**  
**EMRABC.CA and CitizensForSafeTechnology.org**