



SmartMeters are now being installed in our neighbourhood

Why we should care...

HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT: Electromagnetic radiation, especially in today's complex modulated form, has proven negative biological effects on living tissue.

PRIVACY and SECURITY: SmartMeters collect and wirelessly transmit private data. Minute details of our habits and activities can be deduced from the unique electric signature of each appliance. Cyber Security experts warn that SmartMeters are easily hacked and provide a point of vulnerability to the Grid.

SAFETY: Problems include interference with a wide range of electronics, including medical devices; fires and explosions; damaged computers and appliances; and the ability for BC Hydro to shut the power off remotely. At least 3 law-abiding families in Richmond BC lost power for up to 19 days after they got a SmartMeter.

CONSERVATION BENEFITS: A 1- year Toronto Hydro study showed SmartMeters increased hydro bills for about 80% of consumers, with no significant energy conservation.

PUBLIC INPUT AND CUSTOMER CHOICE: The Clean Energy Act of May 2010 muzzles our public watchdog and removes the normal process for public input by stripping the BC Utilities Commission of the power to review the SmartMeter project. The Clean Energy Act specifies that installation can be done "without the consent of the owner."

SmartMeters take away the choice to manage Electromagnetic Pollution in our own homes.



Health Effects

Tens of thousands of SmartMeter health complaints have been submitted to Utilities Commissions in North America. The most common symptoms are:

- insomnia • tinnitus • headache • fatigue • dizziness • agitation
- nausea • memory problems • palpitations and other heart problems

The World Health Organization recently reclassified radio frequency electromagnetic fields (RF-EMF) as a Class 2B possible human carcinogen.

The American Academy of Environmental Medicine, January 19, 2012:

"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."

2012/2 references, non-consent forms, signs and and more info:

- Citizens For Safe Technology www.citizensforsafetechnology.org
- EM Radiation Health Alliance <http://emrabc.ca>
- BC Coalition to Stop Smart Meters www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca
- Gulf Islanders For Safe Technology <http://www.gifst.ca>
- The Citizens' Initiative Petition Group stopsmartmeters.ca

*"We have evidence...that exposure to radiofrequency radiation...increases the risk of cancer, increases damage to the nervous system, causes electrosensitivity, has adverse reproductive effects and a variety of other effects on different organ systems. **There is no justification for the statement that Smart Meters have no adverse health effects"***

Dr. David Carpenter, Dean of the School of Public Health at the University of Albany; former head of the New York State Dept. of Public Health



*Studies show that **children absorb at least twice as much radiation as adults.***

Health Canada recently issued advice to reduce children's RF exposure.

A 2007 Canadian Human Rights Commission report estimated the prevalence of electromagnetic sensitivities to be 1-3%. International surveys show 3-9%. Numbers have been steadily increasing.

*" ... The question for governmental agencies is that **given the uncertainty of safety, the evidence of existing and potential harm, should we err on the side of safety and take the precautionary avoidance measures?"***

Dr. Poki Stewart Namkung, Public Health Officer, Santa Cruz Health Services, January 13, 2012: [Health Risks Associated With SmartMeters](#)



SmartMeter radiation exposure is 24/7 - and Involuntary

Scientists know that electromagnetic radiation has a cumulative effect on the body. Pulsed or modulated signals are especially harmful. DNA damage is still greater when the exposure is intermittent.

In the mesh network system deployed in BC, each meter receives and repeats short, sharp pulsed signals from nearby homes day and night.

“Dirty electricity” from the Switched-mode Power Supply enters the house wiring. Collector hubs add to the Electromagnetic Pollution in the neighbourhood.

To protect privacy and avoid harmful radiation, why not SmartMeters connected by fiber optic, shielded cable or phone lines ?

----- People Speaking Up -----

Scientists, advocacy groups, Public Health officials, environmentalists, physician's groups and individual doctors are calling for an immediate moratorium on installation of wireless SmartMeters. Some utilities have begun to reinstall analog meters and to offer customers the choice to opt out of the SmartMeter program.



More than 20,000 British Columbians so far have signed a petition opposing the installation of the meters. On November 24, 2011, NDP MLA John Horgan presented the petition to the BC Legislature.

Over 30 B.C. municipalities so far— as well as the Union of B.C. Municipalities – have voted individually for a moratorium and/or for consumer choice.

Citizens for Safe Technology and the BC Coalition to Stop Smart Meters filed on December 22, 2011 for an injunction to halt the wireless component of the SmartMeter program under Section 47 of the BC Utilities Commission Act.

StopSmartMeters.ca will use the province's Recall and Initiative Act to launch the BC citizens' Initiative Petition for an HST-style referendum.

A **BC Human Rights Commission** complaint is being filed by *Citizens for Safe Technology* on behalf of individuals whose doctors have requested accommodation for a medical condition.

Many people have submitted non-consent forms and posted NO SMARTMETER signs. Some have chosen to physically protect their meter.

Decisions have yet to be made on BC Hydro offering opt-out choices, but analog meters are being destroyed as soon as they are replaced. Some Corix installers are aggressively ignoring signs and issuing false threats such as power shut-offs.

Officials from BC Hydro have disavowed such threats and tactics, and assured that **BC Hydro is currently respecting requests to keep your meter.**

If you're not sure that you want a SmartMeter, and you want the time to find out more - Put up a sign now to keep your safe analog meter.



2012/2 references, non-consent forms, signs and and more info:

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...” **...with the effects being cumulative as more and more cells are damaged. ... Smart meters, which operate 24/7 and radiate modulated microwaves intermittently, can therefore be expected to be particularly harmful to DNA.”**

Dr. Andrew Goldsworthy, Lecturer in Biology (retired), Imperial College London: [How Smart Meters May Cause Autism and Cancer](http://www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca/html/?page_id=585)

Contacts

- B.C. Utilities Commission
604-660-4700 Complaints@bcuc.com
- Rich Coleman, BC Energy Minister
250-387-5896 EMPR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
- John Horgan, NDP Energy Critic
250-391-2801 John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca
- Your MLA
- City council members
www.civicinfo.bc.ca/11.asp
- Perry Kendall, Provincial Health Officer
250-952-1330 Perry.Kendall@gov.bc.ca
- BC Hydro charles.reid@bchydro.com

To Do...

- ✓ **Post a No SmartMeter sign with signature and send in a letter of NON-CONSENT***
- ✓ **If you already have a SmartMeter, send a request for REMOVAL***
- ✓ **Report health problems due to your SmartMeter to BC Hydro and coordinator1@stopsmartmetersbc.ca**
- ✓ **Sign the Citizens for Safe Technology Petition <http://citizensforsafetechnology.org/>**
- ✓ **Pre-register for the BC citizens' Initiative Petition: stopsmartmeters.ca**
- ✓ **Support fund raising efforts www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca.**
- ✓ **Get your neighbours involved***
- ✓ **Ask elected officials for:**
 - *Moratorium on installation
 - *Open public consultation
 - *Choice to keep analog meter
 - *Safer (wired) meter options.
- ✓ **Contact local governments, Civil Rights, Consumer Protection, Environmental groups.**
- ✓ **Get the media involved.**

* Signs, letters, handouts, T-shirts, bumper stickers at www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca/html/?page_id=585