

Massaro, Luly (PUC)

From: Barbara <barbaranill@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 8:45 AM
To: Massaro, Luly (PUC)
Cc: Cecelia Doucette
Subject: Testimony for Docket Number 22-49-EL

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Good morning,

I am writing regarding docket number 22-49-EL.

There is plenty of evidence on the negative repercussions of smart meters in neighborhoods, towns and cities. Please, do not move forward with the Rhode Island energy plan until all residents of Rhode Island are educated on the effects of wireless technology and have an opportunity to make a choice. It is not worth ease and money to move forward with this potential health hazard.

Sincerely,

Barbara Nill
Sudbury, MA with family and friends in RI

Massaro, Luly (PUC)

From: doekelly@juno.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 4:35 AM
To: Massaro, Luly (PUC)
Subject: RE: RI PUC Public Hearing on April 4 Regarding Smart Meters, for the public record.

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TO: Members of the Rhode Island state legislature, the RI PUC, RI Energy, and all other interested participants, for the public record...

RE: Rhode Island PUC Public Hearing on April 4 re: RI Energy's plan to rollout Smart Meters across RI next year -

I most **emphatically** do **NOT** support the saturation of Rhode Island's environment and airways with yet more radio frequencies/microwaves, from the wholesale deployment of wireless smart meters in all of Rhode Island.

In 2016 I became electro-hypersensitive at the hand of two wireless routers broadcasting in my home concurrently, we were speed testing one against the other to decide which was best/fastest. We, unfortunately, forgot to turn off the second router after the speed test. Unbeknownst to me, the one from Comcast, our old provider (and a router we'd never used, but that was foisted on us by the company) contained two sets of two antennas, one set for the house, and one "for that hotspot over there - in the park." (Comcast never asked our permission to broadcast that second set of frequencies, nor did they ever offer to compensate us for that service that they never informed us about, had we ever made use of the gateway router foisted on us by them!!)

From the moment our new wireless router from the (new fiber optic, latest, greatest) Next Light Internet service was switched on, I watched myself become sicker and sicker throughout the day, until that evening, when I was being full-on blasted by the microwave emanations in our home. My husband, at first, was resistant to this new reality. Over a bit of time he became my ally in figuring out a new, hard wired strategy for using the Internet (that we both rely on for work). But it took some doing. I was fortunate that, at the time, I had been doing some LENS therapy brain mapping. I was able to quantify a before and after state of my brain through sessions I had with my therapist. The "after" session showed a distinct regression of progress gleaned from using her technology. This therapist submitted a report to my doctor, quantifying what she had found in my brain mapping before and after sessions. My doctor, being intelligent, a good listener and quite open minded, added this data into my medical records.

I have been aware of the problem of pollution from electromagnetic fields for several decades, having sold emf protective products since the early 1990s. I have been even more aware of this menace in the past fifteen years, as wireless has steadily encroached on our lives, wreaking havoc on many of God's living things. I have studied this topic relatively extensively, but after my experience in 2016, I feel like Alice having gone through the looking glass. I now know all too well the reality from the other side of the mirror, and it is not a pretty sight.

I have a great deal of compassion and empathy for those suffering from Havana Syndrome as well as the multitudes who suffer from the proliferation of wireless in our everyday environments, many of which have been forced into becoming "emf refugees." The state government of Rhode Island needs to study in depth the science of harm of non-ionizing radiation that wireless microwave devices pose to all living things on earth, including humans, pollinators, microorganisms/soil bacteria, other insects, animals and the list goes on. And then, once you review the reams of independent science that shows this harm you need to create legislation that is protective of life. We cannot continue to

go on our merry way with this dangerous technology moving forward, unbridled. It threatens our very existence on this planet and I daresay, may be the number one threat we face to the existence of life on the planet. The science is there, just ask the FCC. 11,000 pages of science submitted into evidence in the EHT/CHD vs. FCC lawsuit of 2021 should tell you something; the fact that the FCC did NOT review this evidence, collected over seven years at FCC's request should tell you something else, that at least one of our federal agencies charged with protecting the public has not done its job. The federal RF guidelines are badly in need of an update. In the court decision of Aug. 2021 the FCC was ordered back to the drawing board to do the work it was supposed to have done, taking into consideration the submitted science in updating its rf guidelines. Now, over a year and a half since that lawsuit and court order mandating the FCC to do its job properly, there are no updated guidelines forthcoming. You now must take on the mantle that the federal government (FCC) as yet refuses to do, in creating your own suggestions, guidelines, and legislation to protect all the living residents of Maine against the incursions of smart meters, cell towers and all things harmless, the careless, willfully uneducated use of which harms everyone.

I would refer you to the work of Dr. Timothy Schoechle, PhD on this topic, and for a safer, less risky way forward; his white paper "Getting Smarter About the Smart Grid" is available as a free download at <https://www.gettingsmarteraboutthesmartgrid.org/> [[gettingsmarteraboutthesmartgrid.org](https://www.gettingsmarteraboutthesmartgrid.org/)] .

Sincerely Yours,

Doe Kelly, B. Mu., Reiki III
Longmont, CO Advocate for Safe Tech
Vocal Instruction/Coaching/Mentoring/Breathwork
www.facebook.com/doekellyvoice [[facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/doekellyvoice)]
www.facebook.com/doekellyreiki [[facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/doekellyreiki)]
Easy EMF protection, from Doe & Andrew
www.electromagneticprotection.com [[electromagneticprotection.com](http://www.electromagneticprotection.com)]

Massaro, Luly (PUC)

From: Gode. R. <trilliumhealth@tutanota.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 4:18 PM
To: Massaro, Luly (PUC)
Cc: Sresseger2016
Subject: Testimony for Docket Number 22-49-EL.
Attachments: Godelieve.Richard.Diagnosis.EHS-1.pdf; Richard_Godelieve_EMF_Letter_with_References-1-1.pdf

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To who it may concern,

(Please let me know that my testimony has been received and distributed to the appropriate parties.)

Sorry my English is not my mother tongue.

Please do not bring Smart Meters to RI. **These devices can make people sick. I get severe symptoms from wireless radiation. Please find attached diagnosis from MDs from Europe and USA.**

Please watch this movie that my husband made about that subject:

Private link to watch the film: <https://vimeo.com/801434311/0a58c598e9> [vimeo.com]

Medical code on this web page:

<https://ehtrust.org/science/electromagnetic-sensitivity/> [ehtrust.org]

Smart Meters also sometimes catch fire which make dangerous electrical fires. They are not "greener" than analogue meters or digital meters.

If you really want to install them, then you have to give the possibility to people to opt out. But you should better not do that, as the wireless radiation is invasive. Like second hand smoke, everybody is affected. **As a society, we should focus in reducing this pollution which is harmful to people and wildlife. Please be responsible.**

If one day the wireless waves are made healthy, then we could use this technology as much as we want. But it is not the case now. Many studies show the opposite, and many people feel the negative effects of electromagnetic pollution.

Please see below some art that I made.

Kind Regards,

Godeliève Richard

From Shelburne Falls, MA



For the bees and
you:



NOT OK!
Wireless



OK!
Corded and
wired



Sent from my wired computer

[My Art on Hilltown Health \[hilltownhealth.org\]](http://hilltownhealth.org)

[Piti Theatre Company \[ptco.org\] \[ptco.org\]](http://ptco.org)

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Sent with Tutanota, the secure & ad-free mailbox.

Massaro, Luly (PUC)

From: H Davis <hdavisinc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 3:18 PM
To: Massaro, Luly (PUC)
Subject: RE: Testimony for Docket Number 22-49-EL
Attachments: smart meter bill testimony.pdf; NatlGridResidentialAMR_OPT_OUT (1).pdf; AMI-UL+certification+notification.pdf

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RE: Testimony for **Docket Number 22-49-EL**.

Dear Luly Massaro,

Please find my Testimony attached and kindly acknowledge that my written testimony has been received and distributed to the appropriate parties.

Regards,
Heidi Davis

Please also see the information at this important link with regard to fire hazard

: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ed0007ce169954eea17b10b/t/64282bf511935d3ff8fd5e2f/1680354294133/2021+The+Discovery+and+Science+of+Smart+Meter+Fires+%28print%29.pdf> [static1.squarespace.com]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **H Davis** <hdavisinc@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Feb 4, 2020 at 1:38 PM
Subject: Re: Additional Residents Effected- Smart Meter Issue

Cc: Roberts, Kevin (HOU) <Kevin.Roberts@mahouse.gov>, Melly, David (HOU) <David.Melly@mahouse.gov>, Kaplan, Benjamin (HOU) <Benjamin.Kaplan@mahouse.gov>

Thank you Ula for connecting us.

Kevin,

I appreciate you taking the time to understand this matter.

Please see my past testimony on this bill which is now **S.1988 An Act Relative to Utilities, Smart Meters and Rate Payers Rights** attached. My testimony explains my situation and other references cited are attached for your convenience.

I do hope you will share this information with the committee chairs and finally get this extremely important bill to move forward. I have copied Rep Dykema's office here as well as they are aware of my concerns and position on this bill and I

believe they have my more recent testimony (I am on the road with no access to my file today- [Thanks in advance David and Ben for advancing my recent 2019 testimony on bill S1988 to Rep Dykema and the full committee](#))

In addition to my testimony I will say that as a consumer, I think it is egregious that Eversource does not offer what National Grid offers in the way of an opt out. Eversource's terse " *take-your electricity -the -way we give- it -or leave it* "response to me seems clear they know they have the upper hand so to speak. In my opinion, as a rate payer, neither provider should force the consumer to pay to opt out of this otherwise mandated technology --*especially if the consumer is disabled* from the radiation these meters typically emit as this is a violation of both ADA and FHAA federal law which their policies can not preempt.. However, these utilities which essentially constitute a duopoly in Massachusetts, should be required by law to offer a *no fee* opt out to their customers without discrimination.

Please feel free to reach out anytime for more information or for more support on this important bill. Please also kindly confirm receipt of this email and advise that it will be reentered into testimony this session.

Best Regards,

Heidi Davis
[P.O.Box \[p.o.box\]](#) 1020
Westboro, MA 01581
hdavisinc@gmail.com
774-571-9308

Additional resources: Article referenced in testimony
[power-surge-raises-questions-about-smartmeters \[palooonline.com\]](#)

On Tue, Feb 4, 2020 at 12:54 PM U G <uladawn@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello Kevin,

I hope this finds you well! Thanks so much for taking the time to speak yesterday and for your support!

Yesterday, a woman by the name of Heidi Davis contacted me. She is also a resident of MA who was recently threatened with utility shut off, in response to rejecting a smart meter.

I know yesterday you mentioned that, while often accommodations are able to be granted, my story is an example of why having a state wide law of protection in place is needed. I wanted to introduce you to, and make you aware of, Heidi, to demonstrate that I am not the only resident in such a position, due to not having such a bill currently passed into law. I wanted to make you aware that my story is not the only one of its kind in MA, so that you are able to convey that in your upcoming meeting. Of course, Heidi and I are not the only 2 effected, as the petition and large number of calls reflects.

Heidi is included in this email and you are welcome to communicate with her further as well, if you would like!

Thank you again Kevin! We are appreciative of your attention to this issue!

--

Heidi Davis
hdavisinc@gmail.com

--

Heidi Davis
hdavisinc@gmail.com

--

Heidi Davis

hdavisinc@gmail.com

H Davis <hdavisinc@gmail.com>

Jun 19, 2017, 10:53

AM

to Mike.Barrett,
Michael.Brady,
Thomas.Golden,
Tackey.Chan,
Anne.Gobi, Bruce.Tarr,
Joan.Lovely,
Marc.Pacheco,
Adrian.Madaro,
Carolyn, Daniel.Cahill,
James.Cantwell,
Joan.Meschino,
Josh.Cutler,
Leonard.Mirra,
Nick.Collins,
Randy.Hunt,
Michael.Moore,
Jennifer.Flanagan,
Kathleen.OConnorIves,
David.Linsky,
Diana.DiZoglio,
Jack.Lewis,
Kate.Hogan,
Linda.Campbell,
Marjorie.Decker,

Solomon.Goldstein-Ro
se, Rebecca.Ashby,
Caleb.Oakes, Robert,
Monica.Bharel, Erin,
Matthew.ritter

Testimony in support of [S.1864](#) An Act relative to utilities, smart meters, and ratepayers' rights

Submitted Via e-mail to: Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

Dear Joint Committee Members:

Thank you for your consideration of the important wireless utility meter choice bill, [S. 1864](#).

I am a parent in Massachusetts with a family member disabled by RF/ EMF overexposure like the type the "smart"/AMR meter emits. I am writing in support of this important bill which simply provides ratepayers with a choice regarding meter type.

As you may know RF radiation in the range of 30 KHz- 300 GHz was classified by the [World Health Organization in 2011 as a 2 B possible human carcinogen](#). Smart/ AMR Meters operate in this frequency range. Also read here in NYT [cellphone-radiation-may-cause-cancer-advisory-panel-says](#)

Further, the meters comply only in the following way as stated below from the manual in highlight:

CENTRON® Meter Technical Reference Guide

“THIS DEVICE COMPLIES WITH PART 15 OF THE FCC RULES. OPERATION IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TWO CONDITIONS: (1) THIS DEVICE MAY NOT CAUSE HARMFUL INTERFERENCE, AND (2) THIS DEVICE MUST ACCEPT ANY INTERFERENCE RECEIVED, INCLUDING INTERFERENCE THAT MAY CAUSE UNDESIRE

RF Exposure Information *This equipment complies with the FCC RF radiation requirements for uncontrolled environments. To maintain compliance with these requirements, the antenna and any radiating elements should be installed to ensure that a minimum separation distance of 20 cm is maintained from the general population.”*

Furthermore these utility meters are not UL certified but should be as a homeowner or lay person could come into contact with the meter affixed to their property. This is further concerning because these meters are known to have a failed surge protection mechanism which has led to fire, damage and property damage. (see attached memo on UL certification)

I have two properties that have electrical service. The first property, where I have non- AMR meter, I am a customer of National Grid which has allowed for AMR meter opt out --*albeit with one time and monthly fees associated*. Please see the simple National Grid form attached which is offered by National Grid to facilitate the residential AMR meter opt out.

However, I have another property where Eversource has the market share and is the only provider available. Eversource executive management has refused to provide the same opt out based on accommodations suggested by federal agencies available here for your considerations: [US Access Board](#) and [Dept of Labor](#) .

Instead Eversource has plainly said that ...”if I want electricity at this property, I must submit to their RF meter or have no electricity”

This is a burden for my family as this chronic, long term exposure to the RF generated by the meter on my property provokes symptoms in my family member with a diagnosed sensitivity.

Eversource’s business practices must be evaluated as their discriminatory practices for those needing ADA accommodations, such as my family member, must end. A simple solution is an opt out such as that provided by National Grid. It is my opinion that fair housing practices outlined by HUD would provide enough justification to enact this legislation without delay.

Please report **S.1864 An Act relative to utilities, smart meters, and ratepayers’ rights** out of committee favorably and promptly so that my family can get the relief needed.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

H. Davis
P.O. Box 1020
Westborough, MA 01581
hdavisinc@gmail.com

Residential AMR Meter

Opt Out Application Form

Massachusetts

AMR Meter Opt Out Terms

Per Massachusetts Electric Company’s and Nantucket Electric Company’s Terms and Conditions for Electric Service, M.D.P.U. tariff 13-83-A, residential customers may have their National Grid Automated Meter Reading (“AMR”) electric meter replaced with a non-AMR electric meter that does not utilize a radio frequency transmitter.

By signing below, you (the “Customer”) agree to the fees listed in the above referenced terms and conditions which may be amended from time to time. Effective May 1, 2014, the fees are as follows:

Service	Fee	Frequency
Remove AMR electric meter and install non-AMR electric meter	\$26.00	one time
Manually read the non-AMR meter(s)	\$11.00	monthly

The one time fee(s) will appear on your first bill after the non-AMR meter(s) has been installed at your premises. The monthly manual meter reading fee will begin on the same bill.

If you later choose to have your AMR meter re-installed, a one-time re-installation fee will apply that is equal to the fee listed above for the AMR meter’s removal. Starting on the first bill after all non-AMR meters have been replaced with AMR meters, the monthly fee will be waived.

Customer Signature: _____ Date: _____

Customer Name: _____

10 Digit Account Number: _____ - _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone (Primary): _____ Telephone (Secondary): _____

Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

MA NANT 02/04/2016



Itron Meters and UL Certification

The industry standard in the U.S. for electricity meters is the American National Standards Institute's (ANSI) C12.10 standard. This standard governs all aspects of electricity meters and specifies how these metering devices shall be tested and certified to ensure compliance with the standard. The ANSI C12.10 standard does include testing related to power surges, fast transients, etc. all of which help ensure the overall safety of the product. All of Itron's electrical meters comply with this standard, and Itron actively participates in and supports the ANSI standards organization.

Recently, questions have been raised about smart meters and whether they should receive UL certification. Traditionally, UL certification has been utilized for consumer-grade electrical equipment, meaning electrical equipment used in the home that consumers install themselves and/or have direct interaction with. Because electricity meters are installed and accessed by trained and certified professionals and electricians, and consumers do not interact directly with them, electricity meters, including smart meters, do not fit the typical criteria for UL certification.

However, Itron does require that materials used in our meters (e.g. plastics used in the meter bases and covers, insulation materials etc.) from third-party suppliers do conform to specific UL standards for flammability and other safety requirements.

It is also important to note that the meter service panel and meter socket, which house the electricity meter, are UL certified. The meter service panel and meter socket serve as the point of connection between the utility National Electrical Safety Code and residential/commercial National Electric Code.

Very recently, UL added smart meters to their list of certifiable products. Itron is gathering information about this certification and evaluating it to determine if UL certification makes sense for our meters. Regardless, consumer safety with respect to our products is Itron's number one priority and we are continuously working to ensure that we lead the industry in safety and reliability.

For more information, please go to www.itron.com/consumers

ITRON EUROPE

Rue de Stalle 142
1180 Brussels
Belgium

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

2111 N Molter Rd
Liberty Lake, WA 99019
United States

www.itron.com

Massaro, Luly (PUC)

From: Lauren Niedel <lniedel@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 10:59 PM
To: Massaro, Luly (PUC)
Subject: Docket- 22-49 - I AM AGAINST THE INSTALLATION OF "SMART METERS"

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To whom it may concern.

I do not want an infrastructure imposed on the entire state of RI that imperils my health and privacy and that of my neighbors. RI Energy's AMF plan does just that. Do your due diligence. Do not accept RI Energy's assurances of safety and security at face value. Examine the evidence amassed from people all over the country who have experienced the imposition of these "Smart" Meters and who are protesting against them. The debilitating symptoms so many have been subjected to are real and intolerable. Now that the AMR meters are aging out, do not rush to implement a full rollout of Smart Meters. AMR meters themselves contribute to dirty electricity, which has its own negative health effects.

The default setting for houses, apartment complexes, nursing homes, schools, hospitals, and businesses should be safe, accurate analog meters. The public needs to be made aware of the many and serious flaws of Smart Meters and the Smart Grid. The goal should be long-term health and safety for people and property, as well as energy efficiency. Analog meters are more than adequate to accurately measure customer usage. In addition, analog meters are safe from toxic radiation, do not require energy to run, do not increase atmospheric CO2, do not cause household appliances to malfunction, and do not collect intimate data from every household and business, all of which "Smart" Meters do.

Consumers should also not be expected to pay for this decision if it goes through! It is time that corporations pay for "INVESTMENTS" they want to make. Our Electric bills are already through the roof - people cannot afford another unnecessary increase.

Thank you

Sincerely,

--

Lauren Nidel
8 Camp Street
Chepachet, RI 02814
401-602-2626

lnidel@gmail.com

Twitter [@vegemini](https://twitter.com/vegemini)

FB Me <https://www.facebook.com/Vegemini> [[facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)]

April 4, 2023

Esteemed Members of the RI Public Utilities Commission:

I am sending this testimony in DOCKET NO. 22-49-EL re:
ADVANCED METERING FUNCTIONALITY BUSINESS
CASE AND COST RECOVERY PROPOSAL.

I am opposed to mass deployment of “Smart” meter infrastructure across the state of Rhode Island for several reasons.

1. **No UL code.** The proposed “Smart” meter equipment does **not** have a UL Code. UL is the gold standard of safety and compliance testing. If you remodel your home and choose an unlisted cable, the electrical inspector will not approve the project. The fact that RI PUC is even entertaining this idea in terms of cost savings is not only incredibly hypocritical but down right disturbing.
2. **Fire risk.** “Smart” meters pose increased fire risk - hence no UL code - and are linked to several well documented, devastating fires. You have probably seen images of new neighborhoods of new homes burnt to the ground with landscaping and trees barely affected. While the lawyers debate exactly who or what is at fault, I propose Rhode Island PUC not get involved at all with “Smart” meters.
3. **Privacy Issues.** By transmitting a person’s utility usage wirelessly a window of opportunity is opened for hackers and/or data collection for sale to multiple entities. This

information is useful because it outlines schedule and habits. I have no idea if the RI PUC intends to sell this information but a subcontractor might. I also have no idea how RI PUC intends to keep this information secure. More importantly, does the RI PUC know how it will be keeping this information secure?

4. **Average Customer Bill Goes Up.** There is lots of information about electric and water bills going up, way up after a “Smart” meter is installed. I have seen people on hyper local social media, Next Door, complaining about hundreds of dollar increase after smart meter installation. And there are multiple other instances across the country, some claiming almost \$1000 monthly bill increase.
5. **Involuntary exposure.** Involuntary exposure to electromagnetic pulsed microwave radiation. This is, by definition, pollution. I do not want an infrastructure imposed on the entire state of RI that imperils my health. I have Multiple Sclerosis and my body’s wiring is already misfiring. I am extremely vulnerable to modulations of the sun during solar storms. The physical effects of “Smart” meters are well documented. No one needs this, especially the very young or aged or someone with a neurological disorder. The debilitating symptoms are real and intolerable.

In closing, “Smart” meters attached to “Smart” grids are, in fact, a stupid risk in terms of health and safety. If all this commission is worried about is money then I’ll add LIABILITY. You will be immeshed in committee meetings and court cases from the minute you begin this project. I don’t see how “Smart” meter deployment saves you any money at all.

Thank you.

Rachael McIntosh

East Greenwich, Rhode Island 02818

Massaro, Luly (PUC)

From: rgalsworkroom@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 2:06 PM
To: Massaro, Luly (PUC)
Subject: Please acknowledge via reply email that my testimony has been received and distributed to the appropriate parties. Thank you

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Members of the RI Public Utilities Commission:

I am writing to you express my concerns in advance of your vote on April 4, 2023 regarding DOCKET NO. 22-49-EL re: ADVANCED METERING FUNCTIONALITY BUSINESS CASE AND COST RECOVERY PROPOSAL.

My concern are many over the question of installing smart meters throughout our town. We have no long-term data on health effects of use of smart meters. As tax paying citizens we have a right to know about the health effects for our bodies and environment with implementation of smart meters.

Do your due diligence. Do not accept RI Energy's assurances of safety and security at face value. Examine the evidence amassed from people all over the country and not from reports created by those agencies and corporation in position to gain the most. The goal should be long-term health and safety for people and property, as well as energy efficiency.

Please do not disregard the use of analog meters which are more than adequate to accurately measure customer usage. In addition, analog meters are safe from toxic radiation, do not require energy to run, do not increase atmospheric CO2, do not cause household appliances to malfunction, and do not collect intimate data from every household and business, all of which "Smart" Meters do.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Galiani
300 Willard Avenue

Wakefield, RI 02879

Massaro, Luly (PUC)

From: S Parish <sparish9@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 6:24 PM
To: Massaro, Luly (PUC)
Subject: RE: DOCKET NO. 22-49-EL re: ADVANCED METERING FUNCTIONALITY BUSINESS CASE AND COST RECOVERY PROPOSAL

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I am sending this testimony in DOCKET NO. 22-49-EL re: ADVANCED METERING FUNCTIONALITY BUSINESS CASE AND COST RECOVERY PROPOSAL.

TESTIMONY OFFERED FROM: Sam Parish, forensic engineer, consulting in building construction and civil infrastructure. He works in Providence, a 20-year Rhode Island resident.

RECEIPT REQUEST: Please confirm/acknowledge that this written testimony has been received and distributed to the appropriate parties, thank you!

Esteemed Members of the RI Public Utilities Commission:

I do not recommend supporting this proposal, or any plan that involves “smart meter” deployment, or advanced metering functionality (AMF) across the State of Rhode Island.

Based on my civil engineering experience servicing power plants, working with National Grid power utility corridors, and as a forensic engineer co-owning a firm involved in construction consulting and engineering work, I am qualified to make this recommendation. My professional engineering background is summarized at the end of this testimony.

Security Concerns -

RI Energy’s AMF plan and other so-called “smart metering” systems would create an unnecessary vulnerability within our electric power infrastructure. As time marches on, the hardware and software in these systems which use encryption, have susceptibilities that do not, (and sometimes cannot) get fixed with an update, and require field service replacement programs. Regardless of the promises made by RI Energy, these systems immediately become a vulnerability to all connected devices, potentially home networks, and our civil infrastructure. These critical systems must stay offline and analog. For example, big tech companies such as Microsoft, Google, and Apple sometimes require bi-monthly security patches to keep up with their own device and software updates. How does our State expect to do any better with RI Energy, guaranteeing safety and control, while monitoring the power supplied to our houses?

Health and Safety Concerns -

The health and safety concerns regarding “Smart metering” systems are recognized nationwide by

lawmakers, counties, and cities who have already called for a moratorium, or the right for consumers to opt-out, or who have adopted an ordinance banning the meters. The science of electromagnetic radiation can be difficult to understand, but in the last 10 (ten) years since I learned about the adverse health effects, I have found that this information has been effectively suppressed from mainstream media because it is an inconvenient truth. I have provided a link below, leading to more information about the health and safety concerns of a “smart meter” program.

<https://ehtrust.org/smartmeters-health-and-safety-faqs/> [ehtrust.org]

Please perform your due diligence. Thank you!

Sam Parish, BSCE

(Sam’s professional background is as follows)

Sam is a forensic engineer, and construction consultant, and co-owns a consulting engineering firm based in Providence with 30+ full-time employees. The core of his business is the building enclosure commissioning (BECx) process. He has over 25 years of commercial construction, municipal, and industrial engineering experience, with a variety of clients including MIT, Massachusetts Port Authority, Northeastern University, MWRA, NYC DEP, pharmaceutical companies, and US Naval and Air Force facilities. He has formal training and certification in radiation safety and health, from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and work experience at multiple nuclear facilities. He has performed direct measurement of electromagnetic field (EMF) effects in National Grid power utility corridors, including mitigation of induced voltages on railway infrastructure for the safety of MBTA/Keolis personnel. Sam has specialized hospital construction experience and managed the installation of both electrophysiology and MRI hospital units, involving extensive EMF shielding installation. He currently provides construction consulting, field testing services, code compliance review, expert witness, and litigation support for commercial and institutional clients throughout New England.

On radiation / electromagnetic fields (EMF) - For the last ten (10) years, Sam has been concerned regarding the industry shake-up happening over the adverse health effects from different types of EMF exposure. Civil engineers are often the first to respond to environmental hazards affecting the health of municipalities worldwide. Engineers have been measuring the impact and collecting vital data on air pollution, mold, radon, lead, asbestos, tap water, and radiation for many decades. An enormous volume of evidence has been provided to the public. For example, FCC Docket 13-84 demonstrates over 11,000 pages of evidence. Thousands of peer-reviewed published research studies from leading scientists and academic institutions around the world explain the biological mechanisms leading to adverse health effects from EMF exposure. The public has been slow to react to this information in spite of the steady stream of news reporting regarding this inconvenient truth. As with any health hazard which threatens to shake up some industries, the controversy regarding the scientific research on the microwave issue is bound up with corporate interests and government lobbying. The FCC is an agency captured by the wireless industry it presumably regulates, meanwhile the list of litigation cases is growing.

Updates on hundreds of RF wireless cell phone radiation cases can be reviewed here:

<https://ehtrust.org/key-issues/cell-phone-radiation-litigation/> [ehtrust.org]

The FCC has been sued for ignoring the scientific evidence entered into the public record. See the

court's ruling against the FCC in ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TRUST ET AL. V. FCC, here:
<https://ehtrust.org/environmental-health-trust-et-al-v-fcc-key-documents/> [ehtrust.org]

Sam is not anti-technology, but he recommends taking a slow, precautionary approach to adopting the "not-so-smart" and increasingly insecure technology that is exploding in the current marketplace. He recommends minimizing our own exposure to an increasing number of radiofrequency devices, and EMF exposure in both the home and work environments. Sam also recommends a push for a safe and more secure hardwired, fiber optic high-speed internet available to everyone.

Thank you, and please do not hesitate to reach out to Sam Parish for more information regarding this issue.

Massaro, Luly (PUC)

From: Sidnee Cox <sidnee@sonic.net>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 4:46 PM
To: Massaro, Luly (PUC)
Subject: Re: Please do not deploy AMI Smart Meter Technology in Rhode Island

This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

Report Suspicious

Hello Ms. Massaro,

It is understood that the Rhode Island PUC is considering AMF- Advanced Metering Functionality to replace the existing AMR- Advanced Meter Reading meters. We ask that you please carefully consider this decision.

While it may seem as though staying with your AMR technology is not keeping up with the times, transitioning to AMI infrastructure will certainly have long term health consequences for your residents.

It is hoped that elected officials and staff fully understand the implications of deploying AMF or AMI technology as opposed to the existing AMR.

Note: There are two common types of digital meters: Standard AMR (automated meter reading) and advanced smart meters, or AMI. AMR provides a one-way wireless communication for utility companies, whereas smart meter infrastructure (AMI) has a two-way capability via connection to the SmartGrid.

While AMR can contribute to "dirty electricity" in the home, whereby stray voltage can piggyback on house wiring, creating harmonics or transients, the addition of an enormous utility grid powered by radio frequency radiation (RFR) emitted into the home and surrounding environment can have profoundly negative biological effects. The safest route for those who have become disabled from RF radiation is for them to opt-out of digital metering and retain analog meters. This option must continue to be available to all utility customers to protect human health. But flora and fauna will still at risk from the expanded smart grid.

Please see the peer reviewed papers below.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,
Sidnee Cox, Director
EMFSafetyNetwork.org [emfsafetynetwork.org]

We need to protect our fragile ecosystem with regard to RF/EMF.

There are several thousand publications on the biological effects of RF/EMF on humans, but the papers presented below are perhaps the most comprehensive to date on the negative effects of RF/EMF on wildlife and our natural environment. These groundbreaking peer reviewed papers by B.B. Levitt, H.C. Lai, and A.M. Manville, address this subject with alarming clarity:

- **Effects of non-ionizing electromagnetic fields on flora and fauna, Part 1. Rising ambient EMF levels in the environment.** [pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov] (May 2021)
- **Effects of non-ionizing electromagnetic fields on flora and fauna, Part 2. Impacts: How species interact with natural and man-made EMF.** (Sept. 2022) [pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov]
- **Effects of non-ionizing electromagnetic fields on flora and fauna, Part 3. Exposure standards, public policy, laws, and future directions. Abstract** (Dec. 2022) [pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov]
- **Low-level EMF effects on wildlife and plants: What research tells us about an ecosystem approach.** (Nov. 22) [frontiersin.org]