Dear Public Service Commission,

Attached find my formal letter in opposition to Smart Meters.

This is my first letter since the hearing I watched on TV. I have friends and family who are in opposition who feel threatened by the meter and I am concerned for their welfare. Although this type of meter is not yet being installed in my area...Tampa, I would hope it is banned before it ever comes here.

Thank you for hearing my opinion.
Debra Benoit
10-2-2012
Re: Smart Meters- Opposed
Dear Public Service Commission:
CC: Gov Rick Scott

The facts given by the group that spoke against the Smart Meters brought convincing evidence that no one should let these meters be installed due to the astounding health hazards or collect information about my personal electric usage habits. I pay for electric service and that is all I am interested in, nothing more. If the meter readers are too much of an expense for the electric company, they can start a reader service and charge for someone to collect the info. I am not interested in further injuring my brain or my children being exposed, nor personal usage being analyzed and stored in a databank anywhere.

I watched the meeting on TV and I am so grateful the Commission took the time to let them speak and to hear the consumer side of this very important consideration. Thank you for giving them the time to respond. I was very impressed with the quality of their material and the thoughtfulness in which it was presented. At the end of the day, people matter more than convenience of meter reading and corporate monopoly bottom line. The consumer has no choice if we want electricity than to buy their service. I noted that the smart meter is nowhere as efficient or cost effective with replacement than the analogue version we have used for years. The fact that the analogue is cleaner electric than the smart meter might add to this issue. Isn’t cleaner electric what everything is about today?

I think the smart meter should be banned from the market. If I remember correctly, Obama came and made a big deal of his public-private partnership, the money was a Federal shared/grant to Florida Power and Light (nearly a $5Billion) from Stimulus. The money was spent, and it’s the peoples’ money (we paid twice), they didn’t ask us, and we don’t want it. I see the plan moving to my area within a year or so. No thank you. http://www.fpl.com/energysmart/pdf/esf1.pdf

Political side of the story Story: Smart-Grid and Wind Energy Grants

In October 2009, Florida Power & Light (FLP) was awarded the maximum grant amount of $200 million for Energy Smart Florida. Interestingly, this is connected to Silver Spring Networks, one of Kleiner Perkins shining green companies, where John Doerr (another jobs council member who was influential in what went into the energy-sector of the 2009-stimulus) and Al Gore are partners, of which their 2008 $75 million investment had scored over $700 million.

The DOE started dishing out billions from the Smart Grid Investment Grant Program (part of the stimulus plan) in August 2009 and awarded select utility companies for particular smart-grid projects—close to sixty percent of Silver Spring “customers” were winners.

In fact, Florida Power and Light, Silver Spring, General Electric, and a few others have joined forces on a Smart Grid Miami project, which was announced in 2009.

(Note: if you are not familiar with the Smart Grid, Brian Sussman’s book Eco-Tyranny offers an overview which includes this: “President Obama cleverly sold it like this: ‘We want to invest in the next-generation of high-speed wireless coverage for 98 percent of Americans. This isn’t just about a faster Internet or being able to friend someone on Facebook. It’s about connecting....

Thank you,
Debra Benoit
Tampa, Florida 33611