Dear Mr. Clemence,

I was one of the public speakers that spoke at the PSC workshop on Smart Meters in Tallahassee on September 20, 2012.

I traveled almost 6 hours, one way, and spent a night in a hotel, to attend this workshop in order make my voice heard on this important subject. The Public Service Commissioners failed to show up for the workshop and, instead, had members of their staff sit in their place. The public sat for almost six (6) hours listening to the manufacturers of Smart Meters and the power companies show their Powerpoint presentations, call on experts to support their claims, and answer questions poised to them by the PSC staff. They presented what they felt the publics objections were to Smart meters, and they presented their arguments against those objections. The power company and manufacturers representatives were permitted to state the publics case and argue against it, for almost the entire day.

When it finally came time for the public to speak, the first speaker presented five (5) large 4-inch thick, looseleaf binders, filled with scientific studies and reports, which the manufacturers and power companies had spent most of the day saying did NOT exist! Yet, these five binders of contradictory evidence did not draw one single question or comment from the PSC staff. Nothing the public said, or presented, warranted a comment or provoked any curiosity from the PSC, the power company reps, or the manufacturers. Any question poised by a public speaker to the power companies and/or manufacturers reps, went unanswered. The public was permitted to speak, but nothing that was said was given the courtesy of a reply or any verbal exchange with the PSC staff, manufacturers reps or power company executives. Truly, our comments and the preponderance of evidence provided could not have meant less to the PSC. Ours was a one-sided dialog, much like talking to an image on a movie screen.

I submitted Resolutions from my Board of County Commissioners stating the public should be permitted to "Opt In" to having a Smart meter, if they so desire. Florida Power & Light has informed me that County Resolutions will NOT effect their installation process or program in any way, as they do not recognize such Resolutions as binding or even influential to their installation schedule. I also submitted letters from local officials in my County calling on the PSC to consider the evidence being provided to the PSC at this workshop. I was permitted to provide the PSC with those letters.

Where should the public turn for protection from these internet control devices?

It was my understanding that the PSC has the responsibility to protect the public and this workshop was to provide a platform where the public could present valid evidence and supporting documentation to support their claims and opposition to these devices. I left the "workshop" with the understanding that only the power companies and the manufacturers reps will be permitted to communicate intelligently with the PSC. The public would be permitted only to form words with the hole beneath their noses, but those words would have NO meaning to those presiding at this meeting. What the public experienced at this "workshop" was a failure to communicate.
Most Sincerely,
Roger Gangitano
Melbourne, FL
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