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29 May 2024

AEMC  
Level 15  
60 Castlereagh Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear AEMC Team

**Accelerating smart meter deployment rule change**

I am writing to express my views on the draft determination and rule for accelerating smart meters deployment.

I do not consent to the installation of smart electricity meters and object to the roll-out of wireless smart meters that emit radiofrequency radiation. It has been scientifically shown that this radiation is harmful to people and the environment. A requirement for people to have wireless smart meters on their home would greatly affect people with Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity (EHS). EHS is an allergic-type reaction to exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMFs), including RF radiation.

It results in symptoms of mild to extreme discomfort and impairment, including some of the following:

- headaches, sleep problems, fatigue, tinnitus, concentration nausea, digestive problems.

These symptoms are consistent with biological changes that scientists have shown to occur from exposure. These include:

- DNA damage, changes to neurotransmitters and hormones, including a reduction in melatonin, changes to cell behaviour, including increased levels of heat shock proteins and calcium ion efflux, breaches of the blood-brain-barrier, cell proliferation and oxidative stress.

I do not consent to any electricity company collecting data about my electricity usage and sharing it with third parties without my written consent. This because this accumulated data is vulnerable to hacking and there is every reason to expect that sensitive personal details will end up on the dark web, as has been the case with other examples of data hacking in recent years; people have the right to be consulted about how their personal data will be used

The legislation must require electricity companies to compensate customers for any harm caused by their RF-radiation-emitting smart meters.

The legislation must require electricity companies to have insurance that covers them for harm caused by wireless smart meters.

The legislation must be changed to require electricity companies to roll out non-radiation-emitting smart meters.

The legislation must be very clear and changed to require electricity companies to obtain written consent for sharing data obtained by their smart meters.

The number of notices that retailers send to customers before a new meter deployment should not be reduced from two to one. The minimum number of business days required for notices should also not be reduced from what is currently required.

I have been aware and following the technology on smart meters for at least 10 years and how they are intended to be used. This information was well documented in the US. As well as measuring the energy consumption digitally and remotely without meter readings, BUT they also digitally impact the entire dwelling and in so doing those that are living in it.

I am extremely hypersensitive to EMF's. I have had to disconnect my 'hands free' phone which was connected to the router for NBN and I am now considering investing in an EMF free router, if I can afford to. My house alarm no longer is activated with a Sim Card and I have a protective casing on my mobile and at night it is on flight mode if it necessitates, but I mostly have it is switched off. I now only use a corded phone for my home phone. My GP is more than happy to write a letter concerning this, so I do not have a Smart Meter installed. He himself will not have a Smart Meter either.

It has also been suggested that legally that I do not have to have a Smart Meter and it could be replaced with and new analogue meter, if my meter is actually faulty. I have also ascertained that customers who have **Solar Energy** and are still connected and maintained on Analogue meters.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments and I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours faithfully,

A black rectangular redaction box covers the signature of Margaret McArthur. The box is positioned over the handwritten signature, which is partially visible as a scribble above the redaction.

Margaret McArthur