

OFFICIAL COPY

Mount, Gail

From: Dara Weaver <theseweavers@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 10:55 PM
To: Statements; tim.dodge@psncuc.nc.gov
Subject: DOCKET NO. 100-4, SUB 141

FILED

JAN 22 2016

Clerk's Office
NC Utilities Commission

I am writing to ask you to PLEASE REJECT any opt-out tariffs for NC residents (Duke Energy customers) who do NOT wish to have a Smart Meter installed at their homes. Our family is very electro-sensitive and we want the right to top-out of a Smart Meter without any tariffs for doing so! Scientific literature is showing that EMFs, such as produced by Smart Meters, are a growing threat to the public's health, and that more and more people are expressing sensitivities and health problems related to electromagnetic pollution! People should NOT have to pay to protect their health! We North Carolinians need the help of the NC Utilities Commission to protect us from these health dangers!

There have been thousands of reports of adverse health affects caused by the Smart Meters because of the radiation emitted. Firefighters in numerous states have also requested the halt and investigation of these devices as the primary culprit causing fires once they are installed. The devices are also preprogrammed to be smart and interact with appliances and other electrical devices, thus serving as an unconstitutional invasion of privacy for the purposes of monitoring activity where they are installed. There are also numerous Class Action Lawsuits, which are expected to ultimately halt the installation of these dangerous meters. As a consumer, I must protect myself. Because of the nature of the monitoring capabilities, these devices are deemed surveillance and therefore require consent where they are installed. Because of both health and privacy concerns, I will deny consent of any installation and use of surveillance devices at my place of residence. These are all violations of law.

Please oppose opt-out tariffs!

Thank you, Harold and Dara Weaver
Charlotte, NC

Mount, Gail

From: Harold Weaver <weaverink@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2016 11:06 PM
To: Statements; tim.dodge@psncuc.nc.gov
Subject: DOCKET NO. 100-E, SUB 141

Importance: High

FILED

JAN 22 2016

Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

To the North Carolina Utilities Commission,

I am writing to ask you to PLEASE REJECT any opt-out tariffs for NC residents (Duke Energy customers) who do NOT wish to have a Smart Meter installed at their homes. Our family is very electro-sensitive and we want the right to opt-out of a Smart Meter without any tariffs for doing so! Scientific literature is showing evidence that EMFs, such as are produced by Smart Meters, are a growing threat to the public's health. More and more people are experiencing health problems which are related to electromagnetic pollution! People should NOT have to pay to protect their health! We, the people of North Carolina, need the help of the NC Utilities Commission to protect us from these health dangers!

There have been thousands of reports of adverse health affects caused by the Smart Meters because of the radiation emitted. Firefighters in numerous states have also requested the halt and investigation of these devices as the primary culprit causing fires once they are installed. The devices are also preprogrammed to be smart and interact with appliances and other electrical devices, thus serving as an unconstitutional invasion of privacy for the purposes of monitoring activity where they are installed. There are also numerous Class Action Lawsuits, which are expected to ultimately halt the installation of these dangerous meters. As a consumer, I must protect myself. Because of the nature of the monitoring capabilities, these devices are deemed surveillance and therefore require consent where they are installed. Because of both health and privacy concerns, I will deny consent of any installation and use of surveillance devices at my place of residence. These are all violations of law.

Please oppose opt-out tariffs!

Thank you,

Harold Weaver
User Experience Architect
Tel: 980-298-0816

Mount, Gail

From: Mandy and Ryan Finan <mandyandryan2001@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 9:40 AM
To: Statements; tim.dodge@psncuc.nc.gov
Subject: DOCKET NO. E100, SUB 141

FILED

JAN 22 2016

Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

As residents of Eastern NC, we are requesting that the Public Utilities Commission please oppose any smart meter opt out tariffs. We have grave concerns about the electromagnetic frequencies that are produced by smart meters. It is becoming increasingly clear that electromagnetic hypersensitivity is a real issue and that people who suffer from this would be punished if there is an opt out fine. It is unfair that people should have to pay to protect their health in this way!

Our family wishes to avoid the potential adverse health effects of smart meters. We are asking that the North Carolina Utilities Commission please provide us the ability to protect our health and not pay a fine to opt out of smart meter installation.

Respectfully,
Ryan and Mandy Finan

Mount, Gail

From: Jane Anderson <janeedithanderson@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 11:05 AM
To: Statements; tim.dodge@psncuc.nc.gov
Subject: DOCKET NO. E100, SUB 141

FILED

JAN 22 2016

**Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission**

To whom it may concern,

I am a long-time Duke Energy customer with a concern about the proposed opt-out tariff being considered for those who do not want to have a smart meter installed in their home.

I have a dear friend who suffers headaches and nausea from the effects of electromagnetic frequencies when she is near a cell phone tower, a home wifi system - even car key fobs that remotely open car doors. Her symptoms are real and debilitating. I'm sure there are many others who suffer in these situations as well.

While there are ways to control one's exposure to such devices (mainly by avoiding them), once a smart meter is installed in one's home, the EMF's are unavoidable. I BELIEVE IT IS VERY UNFAIR TO CHARGE PEOPLE A TARIFF IF THEY DO NOT WANT A "SMART METER" IN THEIR HOME.

I believe that it is Duke Energy's responsibility to figure out how to read standard meters for those who wish to keep theirs. Perhaps Duke employees can do readings at longer-than-monthly intervals, with monthly bills figured on estimated usages. Homeowners themselves can send in the readings, or take a photo and send that in. I have heard about a suggested phone app that could do such readings. Duke clearly has an economic incentive to charge people to opt out. I don't think it's fair to pass that charge along to their customers.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Jane Anderson
homeowner in Durham, NC

Mount, Gail

From: Michele <mdubow@earthlink.net>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 4:26 PM
To: Statements; tim.dodge@psncuc.nc.gov; Andrew McAfee
Subject: Comments for Docket No. E-100, SUB 141 (file attached and incorporated)
Attachments: Michele Dubow Comments to NCUC 1.22.16.docx

Subject: DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 141

Date: January 22, 2106

FILED

JAN 22 2016

To: NC Utilities Commission and Public Staff

Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

statements@ncuc.net

tim.dodge@psncuc.nc.gov

From: Michele Dubow
3210 Lassiter Street
Durham, NC 27707
mdubow@earthlink.net
(919) 493-7878

As part of my comments, please INCORPORATE BY REFERENCE the full comments and accompanying documentation provided by Andrew McAfee, Andrew@raleighes.info, 919-787-3022, submitted to this Docket on December 26, 2015.

I am writing to:

object to Duke Energy's lack of definitive advanced metering system (AMI) opt-out procedure information in its 2015 Smart Grid Technology Plan update, as required by the NC Utilities Commission (NCUC) in its November 5, 2015 Order for Approving Smart Grid Technology Plans;

and to urge you to reject any one-time and any monthly tariffs that Duke Energy might seek to impose for citizens that request to opt out of having a Smart Meter for health or other reasons.

I also urge you to establish provisions for citizens to reasonably, easily, and without undue delay opt out of Smart Meters so they can protect their health in a timely way and without unnecessary obstruction from Duke Energy or other utility providers.

- The scientific literature shows that human-generated electromagnetic frequency fields (EMF) and radiofrequency fields (RF), such as those produced by Smart Meters, are a growing health threat and reported cases of electromagnetic hypersensitivity (EHS) are increasing
- The United States Access Board (developer of the Americans with Disabilities Act) recognizes that EHS is a growing problem, recognizes it as a disability, and is creating best practices to protect people afflicted with EHS
- The FCC standards that Duke Energy relies on to justify that Smart Meters are safe are not intended to be applied to Smart Meters, as discussed by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) in 2002: EPA position on FCC standards
- People should not have to pay to protect their health from an industry inflicted device that increases profits for the industry and the manufacturers of the device (with this and other documented negative long-term consequences)
- The NCUC's position on Duke's tariffs will set a precedent for other utilities who will deal with opt-out provisions, and the NCUC must keep that in mind. The Duke tariff outcome could affect citizens who are not Duke customers.
- North Carolinians need your help now to protect their health. Duke Energy is the largest electricity provider in the world. Based on the experience of citizens in NC who have attempted to work with Duke Energy to opt out of a Smart Meter, the average citizen doesn't stand a chance on their own.
- Furthermore, Duke Energy can afford to, and should be required to, absorb any costs associated with removing Smart Meters and monitoring power consumption in a safer manner.

I received a Master of Science in Public Health degree from UNC-Chapel Hill from the Environmental Sciences and Engineering Department and had a 20-year career as an Environmental Scientist with the USEPA here in Durham and Research Triangle Park. Much of my work involved regulating sources of pollution after evaluating and balancing the benefits and costs of such regulations, so I am personally very familiar with issues of this nature and what your responsibilities are, particularly to the public. I am qualified to evaluate the merits of scientific information on potentially harmful health effects of chemicals and technologies.

I am deeply concerned with the observed and likely health effects documented to be associated with long-term, low-level exposure to EMF and RF, and I have personal experience to share about damage to my own health likely resulting from such exposures, past and ongoing.

Rather than reiterating arguments you have already received presenting scientific support and rationales for why Smart Meters are NOT a good idea from a health perspective, or why Duke Energy's possible proposed tariff structure for North Carolina is excessive, unreasonable, and unnecessary (based, in part, on Ohio's recent experience), I prefer to INCORPORATE BY REFERENCE into my comments the full comments and accompanying documentation provided by Andrew McAfee, Andrew@raleighes.info, 919-787-3022, submitted to this Docket and dated December 26, 2015.

I prefer to share my personal experience and my plea that I and other citizens of North Carolina be permitted to easily and with little or no cost opt out of Smart Meter requirements for our homes and businesses.

In 2007, while working at USEPA in RTP, I developed unexplained symptoms that were diagnosed in 2008 as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and a host of related diagnoses, including autoimmunity, nonspecific inflammation, immune and nervous system dysregulation, chronic low-level infectious disease, and others. I experienced fatigue and cognitive dysfunction that were so severe I had to stop work altogether in early 2008 and leave government service for medical reasons at the end of 2008. In 2010 I was awarded a retroactive disability retirement with the Social Security Administration and the US Office of Personnel Management. In a short time, I went from being a productive federal employee to a disabled citizen relying on Social Security and a pension for sustenance. I have not been able to work since, though my health has improved somewhat, in stages and with cyclical bouts of symptom exacerbations that leave me unproductive for long periods.

The immune system, nervous system, and mitochondrial (energy) system dysfunctions and other consequences or causes of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome are associated in the literature with exposure to EMF. (I'll use EMF here as a catchall for any man-made frequencies that have been shown to be harmful the way we are exposed to them now.) I have spent years and untold thousands of dollars, as I can, investigating the possible causes of my health issues and managing my body so that I can function in some fashion to survive. It has not been fun or rewarding! Nothing like lying on the sofa for hours or days at a time feeling dead and wondering if I am ever going to feel alive again!

Until recently, I did not suspect that EMF could be a possible cause of my dysfunction and disability. Within the last year, however, I have been told by two local dentists trained in Environmental Medicine and by my primary care practitioner, who has a holistic, functional medicine practice, that the energetic effects of a dental implant and crown placed in my mouth in 2005 could be underlying my body's dysfunction and inability to reregulate and heal itself. An online search revealed significant scientific observation that titanium implants are associated with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, autoimmunity, and many of my symptoms. In addition to the allergic or immunological sensitivity issues associated (despite the medical field's claims to the contrary), I have a powerful "battery" (or galvanic current) in my head which is easily measurable, resulting from the multi metals in my mouth (fillings, crown, abutment and implant), and which dwarfs the natural current of the brain by untold orders of magnitude, AND I have a permanent antenna (the titanium implant) lodged in my jaw as my right front tooth. It took me 4 years of complex dental work and \$15,000 of my own money to get this damaged front tooth replaced, and, I assure you, I would remove it from my mouth now if I could and there were reasonable dental options to replace it, but this is not an easy procedure with obvious alternatives for me. The risks (and costs) are great. I may have to live with this installed antenna for the rest of my life, though I can replace my crown with one that is less electro-conductive.

I sought evaluation of my dental situation in part because of the need, in relation to Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and my associated symptoms, to remove mercury fillings and heavy metals from my body (which I am still too disabled to accomplish safely), and in the process discovered that the energetic consequences of the metals in my mouth (and their effects on my body generally) likely dwarf any other considerations. While my consulting physicians are unable to prove that the interaction of EMF with my implant is the source of my problems, there is plenty of scientific literature and growing anecdotal experience in dentistry to support a connection. I am really at the beginning phases of my understanding of this so I cannot provide a citation list at this time.

But what is even more compelling to me is my felt experience in relation to EMF devices and fields. While I think I have been electrically hypersensitive for some time (for example, getting physically ill when working in computer labs, developing the Chronic Fatigue immediately after spending months in my first ever all-fluorescent, non-sunlit office at EPA, etc.), my experience is now unquestionably and blatantly obvious. When I am around cell phones and wireless devices (or environments), especially in enclosed environments like buildings and cars, my head and ears hurt intensely with tremendous pressure around and above my ears. I also experience intense, sharp pains in my ears. When near high intensity power lines and sometimes cell phone towers, I experience similar disturbances and sometimes feel my right front tooth (with the implant) throbbing. This is accompanied by a general feeling of unwellness that comes on with the exposure, as well as insomnia and other symptoms. As documented elsewhere, once a person reaches the EHS tipping point into disability, the response time decreases and the magnitude of the response increases. (McAfee Comments, incorporated by reference.)

I am experiencing a resurgence of fatigue and inflammatory symptoms, but because of the Chronic Fatigue diagnosis, I cannot say they come on specifically because of EMF exposure as opposed to other situational causes, though I now strongly suspect that the environment of my home and EMF exposure generally are contributing to my health challenges. For the last year or so I have also experienced chronic pain in my neck that is not otherwise explained. Because I have thyroid autoimmune issues, it is possible that the conditions in my mouth are contributing to these health symptoms in my neck.

I have a small home that is near the street in Durham. I just realized that, in addition to a smart water meter at the street, I have a smart power meter that, while outside, is literally within about 2 feet of where I regularly stand in my kitchen, between my stove, counter, and sink. I have a very strong desire and need to remove all Smart Meters!

The connection between EMF health effects and dental implants or orthopedic implants is not one I've seen mentioned in the articles I have read, but I suspect we will all be hearing more about this soon. Meanwhile, I am one of the "lucky" ones to have chosen an implant as the supposedly best choice for my dental needs, and am now stuck with it and a disabling condition that prevents me from working and living a normal life. I have traveled by airplane only once since 2007, and I dread the thought of air travel now (or any travel with multiple passengers), as everyone has a device connected to WiFi or the internet inside a metal box such as a plane, train, airport, or station. Compassion and help for all those with electrosensitivity!

As I mentioned, the prognosis for replacing my implant is not good, because it is in the thinnest, most vulnerable, and most visible part of my jaw. A bridge has a host of negative consequences, and other metal or metal-like materials are not recommended either. **So I am a person who absolutely needs to live apart from Smart Meters and other**

controllable sources of EMF and RF. I am about to have my home evaluated so I can make necessary adjustments and I plan to pursue removing my Smart Meters.

In addition, to further my impending efforts to have Smart Meters removed from my home, I will seek to be recognized as a person with EHS and disabled by EMF with the US Access Board (to supplement my disability status already granted, and from which I prefer to be relieved!).

Finally, in deciding about Duke Energy's requirements and setting precedent for other utilities in North Carolina, I urge you to take my and other citizens' concerns into consideration personally for yourself and your family. As an air quality regulator with EPA, I always wondered what regulation-resistant industries and politicians think they and their families and friends are breathing, apart from the air that the rest of us have to breathe. Get my drift? This is not an abstract consideration. **IT IS YOUR HEALTH, YOUR CHILDREN'S HEALTH AT STAKE.** If you or your children, spouse, or parents develop a brain tumor, Alzheimer's Disease, Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS), autoimmunity, chronic headaches, insomnia, fatigue, depression, or any of hundreds of dysfunctions or serious maladies that are now scientifically connected around the world with low-level EMF or RF exposure, then this is your problem, too. Regardless, YOUR taxes are going to support a growing population of very sick and disabled people, myself included, though I earned my reduced pension. Personally, I think this is a national security issue of the highest consequence: a sick population is not a ready and effectively defended population. I am deeply concerned about the future of the United States of America, let alone the human population planet wide, because of unprecedented introduction of unhealthy technologies without appropriate and unbiased environmental health evaluation. In particular, children have been shown to be especially sensitive to EMF effects and the dangers to them are greatest.

Our future is in your hands and I trust you will make wise decisions to protect ALL citizens of North Carolina, including yourself and your family, and set wise precedents for North Carolina and other States.

Thank you for considering these comments, and feel free to contact me if you need to.

Michele Dubow

Durham, NC

Cc: Andrew McAfee



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