

January 5, 2016

Edward S. Finley, Jr., Chairman
North Carolina Utilities Commission
4325 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4300

Subject: DOCKET NO. E100, SUB 141 - Oppose Smart Meter Opt-Out Tariffs

Dear Chairman Finley and Public Staff:

I urge you to **oppose** any tariff for Opting Out of a Smart Meter in North Carolina. Please do not repeat the mistakes that have already been made in other states, including my state of Maryland. Learn from our experience. Be smarter than Maryland has been.

The first document attached presents the health argument against Smart Meters in Maryland, and describes the options available to Maryland to address the mistake made in installing Smart Meters in our state. The arguments and the options will be similar for North Carolina, whether action is taken by the North Carolina Utilities Commission or by the North Carolina General Assembly.

Our state of Maryland has been in turmoil ever since Smart Meters were MANDATED for installation in Maryland both on, and inside, the homes and businesses served by any Maryland electric power companies that chose to use Smart Meters. The result has been FORCED illness for many Maryland ratepayers, and understandable extreme public anger. To see the specific types of illness attributed to the radiation from Smart Meters, please see the second and third attached documents. They describe the findings of surveys taken of the health impact of Smart Meters.

Offering an **Opt Out with no associated tariffs** is the absolute minimum that you can do to help the ratepayers in your state. That option will let them eliminate the radiation caused by their own Smart Meters, regardless of their income, even though it will not eliminate the radiation caused by their neighbors' Smart Meters, unless the neighbors, too, Opt Out.

The Opt Out should be free. Any tariff charged for such an Opt Out is essentially extortion, and is equivalent to saying to the ratepayers: "Pay us a fee, every month forever, or we will irradiate you and your family, every day and every night, forever." The Opt Out should provide that the replacement meter be the safest of all electricity meters, which is the traditional analog mechanical meter with no wireless communications capability.

My background is the following: I am a retired U.S. Government scientist (Ph.D., Applied Physics, Harvard University, 1975). During my Government career, I worked for the Executive Office of the President, the National Science Foundation, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. For those organizations, respectively, I addressed Federal research and development program evaluation, energy policy research, and measurement development in support of the electronics and electrical-equipment industries and the biomedical research community. I currently interact with other scientists and with physicians around the world on the impact of the environment – including the radiofrequency/microwave environment – on human health.

Thank you for considering my message.

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