

**My comments in bold.**

**1) No more annual recertification for doctor's note:**

"...the question of requiring a customer to provide periodic recertification..."

"DEC's proposed recertification process would add the additional cost and burden of an annual physician's appointment for customers already certified as experiencing health concerns due to RF emissions. Therefore, the Commission concludes that DEC should remove the above provision from its Rider MRM tariff." pg. 2

**2) No release of medical information.**

"The phrase "to release all medical information necessary to complete the Physician's Verification form" could be interpreted to mean that the customer is authorizing the physician to release all supporting medical details of the customer's RF health concerns. The medical opt-out does not require such details to be provided to DEC. Rather, it requires that the physician state that the customer "must avoid exposure to RF emissions to the extent possible to protect their health." Therefore, the Commission finds good cause to direct DEC to revise the first sentence of the medical release form to state:

I certify that I am a member of the household at the customer address shown below and hereby authorize my Physician (as identified below) to complete the Physician's Verification form, or a comparable physician's statement, and send it to Duke Energy and its authorized representatives to consider the Customer's Account for the Smart Meter Medical Opt-Out.

**3) You can use your existing doctor's note if you already have gone through the process:**

pg. 2 "... or a comparable physician's statement, ...." pg. 2

**4) Doctor's don't need to use Duke's form:**

"Second, the Commission is not persuaded that customers should be required to use DEC's physician's verification in order to obtain a waiver. Instead, the Commission is inclined to leave the physician's statement of a customer's need to avoid RF emissions to the discretion of the physician, rather than require a particular form. As a result, the Commission concludes that DEC's physician's verification should be made available by DEC for a customer to use at the customer's option, in consultation with the customer's physician." pg. 3

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That DEC shall remove from its Rider MRM tariff the provision requiring customers to recertify their need to avoid exposure to RF emissions.
2. That DEC shall revise its medical release form as detailed in the body of this Order.
3. That DEC shall revise its MRM Plan to state that it shall be the customer's option to use the physician's verification made available by DEC, or a comparable physician's statement.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION. This the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018.

## **Remember, there is NO FEE!!**

"The Commission modified DEC's proposal by requiring that DEC **forego charging a customer for opting out of having a smart meter** if the customer provides DEC with "a notarized statement from a medical physician licensed by the North Carolina Medical Board that the customer must avoid exposure to RF [radio frequency] emissions to the extent possible to protect their health." pg. 1

DEC stated that the effective date of the Rider MRM is October 1, 2018.

**The paper should be available Oct. 1 on Duke's website.**

**There will be 3 things required,**

- 1) Authorization by household member,**
- 2) Physician's Verification (Doctor's note) and**
- 3) Notary stamp.**

"I certify that I am a member of the household at the customer address shown below and hereby authorize my Physician (as identified below) to complete the Physician's Verification form, or a comparable physician's statement, and send it to Duke Energy and its authorized representatives to consider the Customer's Account for the Smart Meter Medical Opt-Out." pg. 2

Full Text

<https://starw1.ncuc.net/NCUC/ViewFile.aspx?Id=8b8d8000-2962-4f02-a34a-70a3e57ead5e>