



# The Government is considering deployment of a wireless smart grid throughout WA

## Why we should care....

**HUMAN HEALTH and the ENVIRONMENT:** Electromagnetic radiation, such as that emitted by Smart Meters, has proven negative biological effects on living tissue.

**PRIVACY and SECURITY:** Smart Meters collect and wirelessly transmit private data. Detailed profiles of our activities can be deduced from the unique electrical signature of each appliance. Security experts warn that wireless Smart Meter technology is especially vulnerable to remote cyber-attack and electricity theft. Two-way communications also give power companies the ability to remotely shut off power.

**SAFETY:** Problems include interference with a wide range of medical and electronic devices, radiofrequencies coupling on to household wiring, plus increased vulnerability to atmospheric events, leading to fires, explosions, and damaged appliances.

**HIGHER BILLS and MINIMAL ENERGY CONSERVATION :** A one year Canadian study on Toronto Hydro customers showed Smart Meters increased bills for about 80% of consumers, with no significant energy conservation.

The market-driven wireless smart grid is being pushed globally as an environmental initiative, however it is a particularly ironic initiative when you consider serious concerns regarding RF radiation impacts upon the ecosystem: ***"In the light of current knowledge there is enough evidence of serious effects from this technology to wildlife."*** Alfonso Balmori <http://tinyurl.com/loate68>

**However there is NO legislation in place obligating customers to accept a Smart Meter.**

***Smart Meters take away the choice to manage electromagnetic pollution in our own homes.***



## Health Effects

**Tens of thousands of Smart Meter complaints** overseas have been submitted to authorities. In Australia, as elsewhere, people are becoming sick when Smart Meters are connected to their electrical systems, even people who were not previously electro-hypersensitive. The most common symptoms are:

- insomnia • tinnitus • headache • fatigue • dizziness • agitation
- nausea • memory problems • palpitations and other heart problems

**About 3% of the population is sensitive to electromagnetic radiation** according to overseas surveys, with some countries showing significantly higher results. Numbers are growing. Many scientific studies also show systemic long-term health effects. ***"....exposure is additive and consumers may have already increased their exposure to radiofrequency radiation through voluntary use of wireless devices... It would be impossible to know how close a consumer might be to their limit, making safety a uncertainty with the installation of a mandatory SmartMeter."*** Dr Namkung, Public Health Officer, County of Santa Cruz, 2012: [Health Risks Associated with SmartMeters](#)

**The American Academy of Environmental Medicine has opposed** the installation of wireless Smart Meters "based on a scientific assessment of the current medical literature... current medical literature raises credible questions about genetic and cellular effects, hormonal effects, male fertility, blood/brain damage and increased risk of certain types of cancers...": [Resolution to the Public Utilities Commission](#)

***"We have evidence...that exposure to radiofrequency radiation... increases the risk of cancer, increases damage to the nervous system, causes electrosensitivity, has adverse reproductive effects and a variety of other effects on different organ systems. There is no justification for the statement that Smart Meters have no adverse health effects."***

Dr. David Carpenter, Director of the Institute of Health and the Environment, University of Albany, New York; former head of the New York State Department of Public Health.



***"...children's heads can absorb double or more the radio frequency energy of adults' heads."***

Dr. Devra Davis, Epidemiologist and founding director of the Toxicology and Environmental Studies Board at the United States National Academy of Sciences.

***"There are no current, relevant public safety standards for pulsed RF involving chronic exposure of the public, nor of sensitive populations, nor of people with metal and medical implants..."***

Dr. Poki Namkung, Public Health Officer, County of Santa Cruz, pp. 9 - 18, Att. B: [Health Risks Associated with SmartMeters](#)

**Dr Hirsch (UCLA) independently tested the meters:**  
<http://tiny.cc/ysiozw>.

***"The whole body acts as an aerial to RF radiation."*** Dr N. Cherry.  
See pp 15, 50 Critique ICNIRP standards: <http://tiny.cc/cfgnzw>





## Smart Meter radiation exposure is 24/7 and involuntary

Scientists know that electromagnetic radiation has a cumulative effect on the body. Pulsed or modulated signals can be especially harmful. Research indicates RF/microwave radiation is linked to increased risk of cancer, neurological diseases such as Alzheimer's, and impairments to immune function and fertility.

In mesh wireless smart meter networks, such as that proposed by Western Power, each meter receives and repeats short, sharp pulsed signals from nearby homes all day and night. In WiMAX networks radiofrequency (RF) emissions may extend up to around 50 kilometres.

- A wireless grid would require RF emitting Relays and Access Points to enter neighbourhoods creating an additional source of exposure.
- RF microwaves emitted from Access Points to base station towers will add to electromagnetic pollution in the home and neighbourhood.
- 'Dirty' electricity (high frequency voltage transients) from the switched mode power supply of Smart Meters and from RF coupling on to household wiring would increase EMR pollution in the home and neighbourhood.
- Home Area Network emissions from wireless transmission between household appliances and in-home display units would add further to electromagnetic pollution.

*Why not instead connect Smart Meters to fibre-optic cables to reduce radiation, protect privacy, and improve integrity and longevity of Smart Meter technology? Fibre optic to residence is more cost effective long term AND protects public health.*



### People Speaking Up



Emissions given off by Smart Meters were classified by the World Health Organisation as a Class 2B Possible Human Carcinogen in 2011. Unfortunately with the wireless smart grid, an individual 'opt-out' is an insufficient solution, failing to address the problem of RF emitting support infrastructure entering local communities. See also EU Parliament Res. 1815, Clauses 6- 8.1.2: <http://tiny.cc/066rzw>.

Professor Olle Johansson's 2011 letter to the Californian Utilities Commission on research concerns with relevance to a wireless grid: <http://tiny.cc/0jk2zw>

#### **Concerned West Australians:**

Make your views known to your local Member of Parliament and Upper House Members. Write to Western Power and let them know that you are opposed to the wireless smart grid on the basis of concerns for your family's health.

Email the Hon. Minister for Health, Kim Hames: [Minister.Hames@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Hames@dpc.wa.gov.au)

Independent scientists recently published a 2012 update of the BioInitiative Report, which included review of an additional 1800 new studies since 2007. See the conclusions of report here: <http://www.bioinitiative.org/report/conclusions>

If the diversity of concerns raised in this review seems surprising, consider that independent scientists have been warning governments for over a decade of the complete inadequacy of current 'thermal' standards to protect public from a variety of diseases recently showing signs of increase, including cancer and early dementia.

**MORE INFO** Meters: <http://tiny.cc/0vkozw> <http://tiny.cc/p2lozw> <http://tiny.cc/1owvzw>

SCIENTISTS WARN RE URGENT NEED FOR BIOLOGICAL STANDARDS: <http://tiny.cc/7c9rzw>

<http://tiny.cc/xvenzw> <http://tiny.cc/g2fnzw> <http://tiny.cc/ydxvzw> <http://tiny.cc/4myqzw>

<http://vimeo.com/17266941> CELL TOWERS (concerns within 500m): <http://tiny.cc/kfoxzw>

An engineer speaks re solutions: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NnUxwYnhij0>

The 'reflection' issue also has relevance for Smart Meters: <http://tiny.cc/bmerww>

Consider the hazard of a smart meter in light of this industry document re WLAN concerns: [http://www.safeschool.ca/Swisscom\\_WiFi\\_Harms.html](http://www.safeschool.ca/Swisscom_WiFi_Harms.html) (See pp. 4 and 8 of document)

A letter authored by a prominent Paediatric Neurologist addresses research concerns re wireless radiation and neurological development: <http://tiny.cc/xchnzw>



*"The strong regular transmissions from wireless smart meters are particularly harmful and more likely to lead to DNA damage, cancer and autism."*

Dr. Andrew Goldsworthy, Hon. Lecturer Imperial College London: [How Smart Meters May Cause Autism and Cancer.](#)

*"It is imperative that national security, human rights issues, public safety and the economic well-being of countries are taken into account with regard to Smart Meters.... At present 'future-proof' fibre-optic Smart Meter systems appear to be the best option for large-scale roll-outs."*

Dr. Isaac Jamieson, Scientific advisor on Stakeholder groups in the UK and EU: p. 19, [Smart Meters – Smarter Practices.](#)



*"...we are not the only species at jeopardy, practically all animals and plants may be at stake."*

Dr. Olle Johansson, Assoc. Prof., The Experimental Dermatology Unit, Department of Neuroscience, Karolinska Institute & Professor, The Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden: [Letter to California Utilities Commission](#)

Dr. Martin Blank spoke at a Stop Smart Meters rally in Canada in 2012: "There is no question that a responsible public health official should invoke the precautionary principle and certainly in the case of smart meters stop the installation." <http://tiny.cc/gpqgzw>