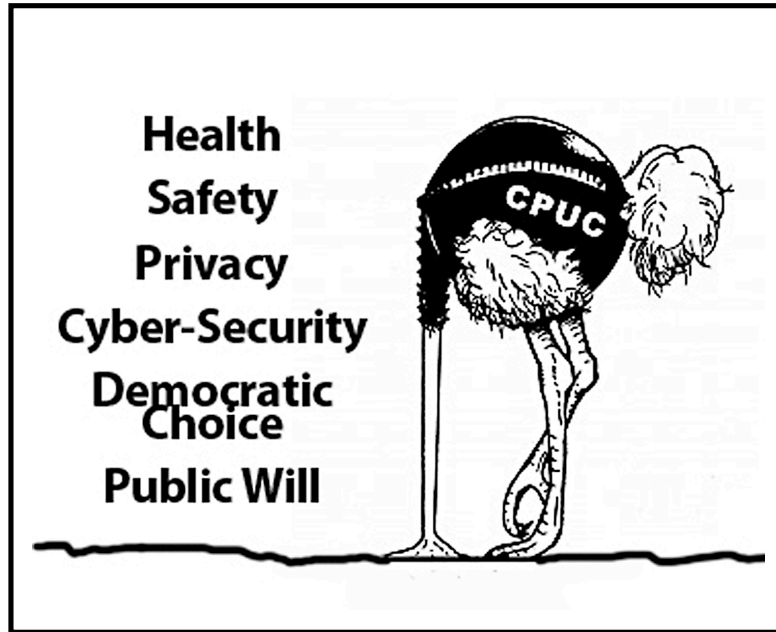


## Let's tell the CPUC: "It's not 'smart' to defy the will of the people."

By James Heddle



Four years of informed, angry, pleading public testimony on a virtually bi-weekly basis telling them of the personal health, public safety, privacy violation and national cyber- and energy-security threats posed by the forced saturation deployment of wireless so-called 'smart' meters failed to persuade the five unelected, political appointees that perch on the dais at the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC).

None of these urgent public health, safety, privacy, and security concerns have been considered in the Commission 'Proceeding' dealing with the question of whether-or-not individuals, apartment complexes, communities and municipalities could choose to 'opt-out' of the coordinated government/industry wireless 'smart'

meter roll-out push being simultaneously implemented in many countries around the world.

On Thursday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, the Commissioners are expected to vote for a decision stunningly symptomatic of the current state of democratic public process in America: Screw the Public Will. Discounting all legitimate public concerns, the ruling will allow ***individual households*** to 'opt-out' for ***an initial penalty fee and an extortionate monthly payment.***

But ***no collective opt-outs*** will be allowed - meaning all neighborhoods will be drenched 24/7 in inescapable electro-magnetic soup. No place to hide.

So much for democratic process and 'consumer choice.' So much for health, safety, privacy and security.

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## **Down from Davos**

The whole corporately-driven wireless 'smart' meter roll-out craze on the part of gas, power and water utilities world-wide can be traced back to the government-corporate conclave known as the World Economic Forum which meets annually in the swank Swiss resort town of Davos.

Conceived in the conference rooms, cocktail lounges and dining halls of snowy Davos and codified into technical papers, budget spread sheets, strategic planning documents and public relations scenarios by corporate and government staffers, the scheme was sold to gullible officials and publics as a necessary response to climate change.

The global 'smart' meter roll-out – just a step toward the ultimately envisioned 'internet of things' in which a whole new generation of 'smart' wireless appliances from juicers to air conditioners to vibrators will communicate with each other in a kind of automated global brain – would give consumers more awareness of and control over their energy usage and allow the integration of 'intermittent' renewable energy sources like wind and solar into the national energy grid. That's how the sales-pitch went. None if it has proven true.

But Obama Administration bought the hype, drank the 'smart grid' cool aid and shoveled billions of big federal bucks into the pipeline to support it.

Here in California, CPUC President Michael Peevey slurped the smart meter cool aid and made it his business to impose 'smart meter madness' on the entire population of California.

That's how it comes to pass that next Thurs. – as Mike Peevey ends his CPUC career and rides off under a lowering cloud of corruption investigations – the Commission will mark his passing by voting into place his legacy - an essentially criminal act which will put at risk the health, privacy, safety and security of the state's entire population. Hellofa job, Mike!

**Please join many other outraged ratepayers and public citizens at the CPUC 8:30 AM, next Thursday 505 Van Ness Avenue** and let the Commissioners know that this illegitimate decision defying the public will cannot stand. It is the end of a flawed CPUC Proceeding, but only the beginning of public opposition that will ultimately roll back what will come to be seen as one of the most harebrained and disastrous technocratic decisions in the history of California.

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*For more: EMFsafetyNetwork.org StopSmartMeters.org*

## **What do we want? WISE GRID! When do we want it? NOW!**

### **What we want:**

- Informed democratic choice, not top-down, technocratic dictates
- Individual no-cost opt-out
- Building-wide no-cost opt-out
- Community-wide, no-cost opt-out
- Cancellation and roll-back of the SM roll-out and the whole 'smart grid' scheme/scam
- Investment in a decentralized "wise grid" based on small-scale distributed generation facilities based on renewable energy sources and managed by publically owned and publically accountable entities.

### **What's wrong with the 'smart grid' agenda:**

- Its top-down, corporate profit-driven, imposed without public discussion or investigation of all its multiple areas of impact: human and biological health effects; safety; vulnerability to hacking and malicious manipulation; privacy - personal data collection for marketing and surveillance purposes; economic and energy saving effectiveness; basic functionality.
- It's based on an obsolete business model, i.e., the private investor-owned utility (IOU) operating centralized, large-scale generating facilities supplying a large designated monopoly region with energy from polluting, non-renewable, toxic sources – coal, gas and nuclear reactors.

### **What's wrong with Wireless 'Smart' Meters:**

- They do not function as advertised either technologically or economically.
- They are a danger to human and biological health as well as to safety, privacy and grid security and stability.

### **What's wrong with the Opt-Out proceeding and Proposed Decisions:**

- They violate California state law and the CPUC's own codes and regulations.
- They fail to address fundamental issues of consumer protection, property rights, human health, public safety, science-based, democratic decision-making and due process.

### **What's wrong with the CPUC:**

- It is corporately captured, corrupt and inimical to the public interest.

### **What's wrong with PG&E:**

- A long history of criminal behavior against the public interest
- Under multiple federal indictments
- Demonstrably incompetent