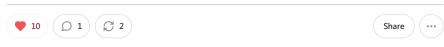
By Hook Or By Crook

'I'm Sorry Dave, I Can't Let You Use That'





Credit: Supercellex for image editing assistance.



By Hook Or By Crook

It is probably no surprise to learn that smart meters cause fires [warning: Archive.org may falsely claim the page does not load; refresh it and be patient, or alternatively refer to this]...

By Andrew Maykuth, INQUIRER STAFF WRITER POSTED: October 10, 2012 Peco Energy Co. announced Tuesday it will resume its ambitious smart-meter installation program after pulling the plug on a manufacturer whose devices had been linked to a series of fires. The Philadelphia utility suspended the \$650 million program in August after several incidents in which the electronic devices overheated and caught fire. Two of the incidents resulted in serious house fires, though none resulted in injuries.

...even causing apartment fires...



PGE's internal analysis and tests — confirmed by independent experts hired by the company — show this meter type did not perform optimally and in an extremely rare case, a meter could catch fire. Three small meter fires involving this type of meter have been reported in PGE's service territory, with only minor property damage in one case.

Interestingly enough, Maui, which we have previously covered the fires on, had always been a target for smart meter adoption, both historically and currently. Residents have been rightly critical of smart meters, and resisted.

Japan-U.S. smart grid demonstration on Maui commenced operations Smart Energy International • Jan 13, 2014 Share Operations on the demonstration site for the Japan-U.S. Island Grid Project on Maui Island, Hawaii have now commenced, project leader Hitachi announced just before Christmas.

Hawaii Electric, with approval from the Hawaiian government, put up plans to have smart meters installed via coercion of higher rates for those that refused back in 2020.

across all islands in its service territories. Thus, the initial deployment phase includes about 35,000 potential meter installations on Maui and Hawaii islands, with Molokai and Lanai considered for a second deployment phase.

Source: Hawaii 'Public Utilities Commission' (PUC) Government Website

Customers who wish to opt-out will acknowledge with their signature that they understand they will be foregoing the benefits of an advanced meter, and that the deferral does not reflect a final determination by Hawaiian Electric regarding advanced meter installations and that the Company, at a later time, may seek recovery of costs and/or approval to charge a fee relating to those customers who decide not to receive an advanced meter. In other words, the Companies hold open the possibility that they may later seek approval to charge an opt-out fee that reflects incremental costs associated with customer non-participation. Actual opt-out level experience during deployments will determine whether such becomes necessary.

Source: Hawaii 'Public Utilities Commission' Government Website

Lahaina in Maui, an area that burned, had smart water meters, that were installed by *Professional Meters, Inc* (PMI) back in 2021, along with several other locations.

In June 2020 the Department of Water Supply began its Small Meter Replacement project aimed at upgrading aging water meters within the County water system. The project, which is expected to last for four years, will replace an estimated 26,000 water meters that are 2" or less in size. Professional Meters, Inc. (PMI) has been hired by the department to install the meters.

PMI will also be installing new cellular transponders on all small water meters. These new transponders will allow the Water Department to read customer water meters remotely by using existing cell tower infrastructure and will also allow customers to create an on-line account ("EyeOnWater") and view their own water usage in real time over the internet. Information on how to sign up for this new EyeOnWater feature is listed on the DWS website.

Source: Maui County Government Website: "Small Meter Replacement Project"

Are these new meters considered "smart" meters?

These new meters, in combination with the new cellular transponders, comprise an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system. They are sometimes referred to as "smart" meters because of the ability to read the meters remotely.

Source: Maui County Government Website: "FAQs"

As The Daily Beagle previously noted, government officials refused to send water, but how exactly did they turn off everybody's water supply?

Another curiousity: Kihei in Maui, an area that housed an organisation critical of smart meters

— Stop Smart Meters Hawaii — also burned.

Keep Your Power c/o MetaComm Media 1215 S. Kihei Rd. Ste. 0-907 Kihei, HI 96753 Firefighting efforts continue at the in Lahaina, Pūlehu/Kihei and Upcountry areas. The photos above are from the Pūlehu/Kihei fire and were taken from the corner of Olukai and Hoalike Street in Kihei on Wednesday afternoon.

Combined image sourced from: Stop Smart Meters Hawaii, and Maui Now

Smart Meter Illinois Connected With Smart Meter Maui

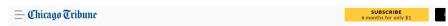
In another curious coincidence, Professional Meters, Inc (PMI) are headquartered in Illinois...

Corporate Headquarters

3605 N State Route 47, Suite E

Morris, IL 60450

...this is the same region of the US that billed people monthly for refusing smart meters in order to coerce adoption...



BUSINESS

ComEd customers refusing smart meter will be charged \$21.53 a month

By Julie Wernau Chicago Tribune • Published: Feb 06, 2014 at 12:00 am



...where Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) begged with their government paymasters to give them more time to coerce the remaining handful that hadn't been assimilated by the proverbial Borg collective who won't take no for an answer...

participants in order to preserve AMI mesh network performance; (4) to continue to collect reasonable charges (as they may be updated from time to time) from the AMI meter refusing customers as provided for in the tariff; and (5) to continue to inform customers of the benefits of AMI, encourage acceptance of AMI meters, and phase out Rider NAM through the voluntary acceptance of AMI meters. See ComEd's September 9, 2019, Petition, ¶ 45, and the Commission's

...in order for Illinois to receive the benefit of 'self-combusting' smart meters.

IN JUNE 2010, Shirley Bayliff was sitting at the piano in her suburban Illinois home, giving music lessons to a student, when she heard a "pop" outside the house before the power went out.

When she and her husband looked out the window, they saw five-foot flames shooting out from a new General Electric smart meter their utility company had installed as part of a pilot project. "Very, very scary," she told <u>Crain's Chicago Business</u> newspaper.



Charred remains of a burnt smart meter

I believe in coincidences. Coincidences happen every day. But I don't trust coincidences.

- Elim Garak, Deep Space 9

Rich Man, Poor Man

Hawaii Electric exploited the impoverished situation of Maui residents due to 2020 lockdowns to coerce them to adopt smart meters:

The Companies acknowledges that, with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, many of the Hawaiian Electric customers are financially vulnerable and the accelerated deployment of advanced meters has become even more important so that these customers can monitor their detailed energy usage data, quickly receive outage and billing alerts and have the choice of participating in energy programs that can save them money. Hawaiian Electric recognizes that

Targeted the medium to low income residential areas — the same areas that primarily burned during the Maui fires.

Other community considerations include low to medium income ("LMI") customers and communities. Benefits that may prove especially useful to LMI customers include access to an



The Daily Beagle had shown evidence how larger buildings and mansions had been left untouched[2] — presumably because they weren't targeted with 'smart meters'.

Given they targeted buildings that were residential, it'd explain why non-residential buildings, such as community centres and industrial buildings, had not burned.



Lahaina, Maui



Lahaina, Maui; note burnt grass on the left

Previously The Daily Beagle had shown evidence that the utility companies were likely responsible for fires, this recent discovery adds new, compelling evidence.

Criminal Cover-Up Of Smart Meter Fires

Utility companies have previously tampered with smart meter fire evidence by quietly stealing burned smart meters or surreptitiously replacing them, to the point newspapers...

In an interview last week, an electrician who helps NV Energy replace the meters told the Reno Gazette-Journal that often meters would be fixed before the fire department could even be called. The RGJ has withheld his name because he continues to do work for NV Energy and didn't want to put his employment at risk.

"NV Energy was so quick in having me or one of the other guys out there that the fire department never knew about them," he said. "We'd have the panel changed out and power turned on within five hours and a guy painting the wall right behind us."

...insurance analysts...

Part of the problem I face as a Claims Adjuster and other Adjusters are dealing with, is that when the fire department receives the notice of a fire, one of their first duties is to notify the local public utilities to shut off the utilities, preventing the further spread of the fire. When the local electrical utility arrives and determines that a smart meter is the issue, they have been removing the meter, and preventing the inspection of the meter by the experts the insurance company will hire to determine who is responsible for the fire.

This is a serious situation, as the utility company, upon removal of the meter is tampering with what is evidence concerning the cause of the fire and can be held criminally responsible. Most

...and firefighters have previously called them out for evidence tampering:



The fire department says the meters are sometimes gone before investigators can look at them to find out whether their wires might have been damaged, which could lead to a short circuit and a fire.

"A fire is considered a crime scene and at a crime scene evidence should be left alone," said France Voiselle, a department spokeswoman.

No company has yet been charged for criminal tampering with evidence of suspected arson caused by smart meters. Not surprising given how The Daily Beagle found a landslide of evidence for arson for wildfires (and utility involvement).

Hooked By Crooked Government Tyranny

Does this bother governments? Not the UK government, who threatens a fine of up to £15,000 or imprisonment for those resisting using inverse logic:

248 Sanctions

- (1) The enforcement provision that may be made includes provision -
 - (a) for a person with public functions to enforce a requirement imposed by or under energy performance regulations;
 - about the sanctions for non-compliance with a requirement imposed by or under energy performance regulations;
 - about the sanctions for the provision of false information in connection with such a requirement;
 - about the sanctions for obstruction of, or impersonation of, an enforcement authority or a person acting for an enforcement authority.
- (2) Energy performance regulations may provide for the imposition of civil penalties by enforcement authorities in relation to cases falling within subsection (1) (a) (b) (c) or (d); but the regulations may not provide for a civil penalty that exceeds £15,000.
- (3) Energy performance regulations may provide for the creation of criminal offences in relation to cases falling within subsection (1) or (d); but the regulations may not provide for a criminal offence to be punishable—
 - (a) with imprisonment for a term exceeding 12 months, or
 - (b) with a fine of more than level 5 on the standard scale.
- (4) Where energy performance regulations make provision for a civil penalty, the regulations must also include provision for a right of appeal to a court or tribunal against the imposition of the penalty.

Source: House of Lords Energy Bill, Page 207

"may not provide for a civil penalty that exceeds £15,000"

Meaning it may provide for a civil penalty up to £15,000.

"may not provide for a criminal offence to be punishable [...] with imprisonment for a term exceeding 12 months"

Meaning it may provide for a punishment for up to 12 months (a year) in jail.

"may not provide for a criminal offence to be punishable [...] with a fine of more than level 5 on the standard scale"

Meaning it may provide a fine of up to level 5 on the standard scale.

Threats relate to any and all attempts at so-called 'obstruction' to the so-called 'Net Zero' schemes within. It does not define what 'obstruction' is, so conceiveably refusing to have solar panels installed or a smart meter installed would count.

It also grants GEMA (Gas and Electricity Markets Authority) who sit above Ofgem (Office of Gas and Electricity Markets) power to basically cut off people's energy supply at any time they like.

240 Regulations: procedure and supplemental

- (1) Regulations under section 235 may provide for exemptions or exceptions.
- (2) Energy smart regulations may make provision about the sharing of information between an enforcement authority and the GEMA for the purposes of their functions in relation to energy smart appliances and load control.

Source; House of Lords Energy Bill, Page 201

Reading between the lines: 'load control' includes the ability to 'shed load' (I.E. drop you from their energy network, like Texas did to people).

In this context it describes the utility company as an *enforcement authority*, which, of course, implies *enforcement* (and not merely as a 'sharer' of information). What, exactly, are they enforcing? What are their methods of enforcement? And who are they enforcing it against?

Smart meters have a remote disconnect switch built into them, even though analogue electricity meters didn't have one.

Giving evidence to a parliamentary inquiry on smart meters, Nick Hunn, Chief Technology Officer of WiFore Consulting, explained that these smart meters feature a switch that can be remotely turned off, cutting households' regular energy supply.

The UK government signalled that it wanted to be able to switch off people's electricity without warning or compensation (not that a warning nor compensation would make the draconian abuse of power right; lives are at risk).



measures that would enable networks to SWITCH OFF your electricity without warning or compensation

- Of gem reviewing plans to give energy networks the ability to shut down domestic electricity supplies
- A new sort of smart meter would need to be installed in every home in the UK
- Would have the ability to switch off high usage devices such as electric vehicle chargers and central heating systems
- Sources close to discussions told us that government is 'open' to proposing legislation to support these powers

By SARAH DAVIDSON FOR THISISMONEY.CO.UK
UPDATED: 08:02, 18 September 2020

The newest legal bill confirms this is exactly what the UK government plans to do. On top of that, the Chinese made smart meters pose a national security risk (as do most Chinese made parts).

A quarter of a million British households are reportedly using smart meters linked to the Chinese government through a company which is a subsidiary of a state-owned energy company in China

Vulnerabilities Galore

The intentional backdoor vulnerabilities allow others to do the same.

NEWS May 26, 2016 at 10:30 am

Smart Meter Companies Sue Local Activist and City to Block Disclosure of Security Audits

ANSEL HERZ

"They could cause some kind of mass disconnect for the neighborhood or part of the grid," said Suku Nair, of HACNet. "It could be the whole Dallas area."

Mitchell Thornton, Southern Methodist University, 2009

"In Spain, researchers have already managed to hack smart meters and send false information to energy providers."

- The Register, 2014

"An attacker who controls the meter also controls its software, allowing them to literally blow the meter up"

- The Register, 2017

"According to analysis by the security company Kaspersky Labs, many of these devices have weak security settings, which are easy for hackers to bypass."

- Evening Standard, 2018

"[...] there are limited consumer protections to build confidence in the [Energy Smart Appliances] market [...]"

— The Express, 2022

The lack of security in the smart utilities raises the prospect of a single line of malicious code cutting power to a home or even causing a catastrophic overload leading to exploding meters or house fires, according to Netanel Rubin, co-founder of the security firm Vaultra.

- The Guardian, 2016.

Grid operators have even remotely adjusted people's thermostats previously, so it isn't without precedent. Those who took part voluntarily in smart grid control ended up regretting it.



Could grid operators be so heartless as to cut off energy to granny? Yes.

Grid operator OnCor gave maliciously false advice to one resident who ended up electrocuting himself and paralysing himself for life.

The case dates to 2015, when Oncor ran a power line across Mr. Taylor's property to his neighbor's house. Dying trees near the line were dropping branches and creating a dangerous situation. Mr. Taylor reported it to Oncor multiple times, asking the company to move the line and cut down the trees, but with no action. Instead, in an effort to save money, Oncor told Mr. Taylor it was his responsibility to protect the line and trim or remove the trees, though doing so put him in a position where he was violating Texas law. Acting to try and protect others from the dangerous conditions, Mr. Taylor was severely shocked, burned, and paralyzed and will require care for the rest of his life.

The jury found that Oncor's conduct took advantage of Mr. Taylor's lack of knowledge and rejected Oncor's defense he violated the statute, finding Mr. Taylor was not familiar with the law. The jury also heard evidence that Oncor knew of other consumers and trimmers who had rented equipment like Mr. Taylor and had been shocked while trimming overgrown trees around Oncor lines.

They also violated the rights of a union worker who was trying to warn of the dangers of smart meters (emphasis added):

"Reed, the union's business manager who was also involved in contract negotiations with the Dallas, Texas-based company, told the committee that he saw an increase in work orders in which both smart meters and the base that they are attached to burned, according to a transcript of the hearing. He also testified the damage was caused by the meters."

As noted earlier, Hydro-Quebec maliciously removed evidence from an arson investigation, despite firefighters telling them not to.

Support for installation of remotely controllable smart meters makes the fallacious assumption that the government isn't already or won't become a tyranny. History shows us otherwise.

This comes as the EU wants a digital mass surveillance grid.

Issue: September 14, 2023

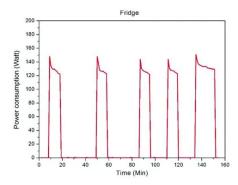
Leaked Docs Show EU Wants Mass Surveillance Of Messages, Photos, and To Mandate Online Age Verification



Smart meter data from individual homes is public and easily interceptable, it gives the enemy an idea how you use power, when, for how often.



By analysing the signal frequency of power consumption, it is also possible to tell what devices are running, as each one has a unique power consumption signal.



Endless Hooks By Endless Crooks

Previously governments have tried to use every trick in the book to force people to adopt smart meters:

By lying about features the smart meters simply didn't provide:

"A radio advert by Smart Energy GB has been banned for making 'misleading' claims that consumers could save money simply by getting a smart meter installed."

- Which.co.uk, 2019



Smart meter advert banned for misleading consumers

By breaking and entering to gain access to properties and forcefully swapping them over:



By financially penalising those who refused to have a smart meter installed:



Now by threatening criminal prosecution in the form of large fines and jail, and just joint blank forcing it on people.



Residents around Buckinghamshire have received letters from Thames Water announcing that they 'cannot refuse' the installation of a smart meter in their homes.

Members of the Facebook group Wooburn Green and Bourne End Open Discussion exchanged opinions this week on letters received by members of the community stating that Thames Water was planning to fit smart water meters in their houses.

Germany is scheming something similar, mandating phasing out of older heating systems that Germans simply cannot afford to upgrade, requiring 65% renewable power sources.



Estimated cost to Germany is €1 trillion. This will no doubt bankrupt Germans, forcing them to either sell their property, or risk criminal prosecution for simply being too poor to be able to afford a new heating system.

Now Scheming Smart Water Meters

If you think the government jailing you for refusing to let them install buggy, vulnerability surveillance equipment that allows them to switch off your power supply is terrifying, you've not seen anything yet.

They plan to do the same to your water supply.

Illinois already started a roll out of 'smart water meters' back in 2021, and it is very likely they will use it to cut off people's water supply if they disagree with the state...



...in the same way governments cut off medical care to dissenters. And deny them their human rights.



In pure irony and absolute hypocrisy, France, have been raising concerns about radiation fears with the battery powered iPhone 12, with Germany and Belgium considering an iPhone 12 ban

and South Korea investigating. They all seem oddly quiet about the mains powered wireless smart meters with cellular transponders, rules for thee?

The digital tyranny is coming for us all.

Summary

Smart meters cause fires, utility companies try downplaying and denying, criminally tampering with evidence of smart meter fires.

Maui became an early target for smart meter installation, aimed at residential medium-to-low income areas, same burned up areas in 2023 Maui fires; a non-profit opposed to smart meters in Maui also burned up.

Professional Meters, Inc, who installed smart water meters in Maui has HQ in Illinois, a State known for draconian enforcement and abuse forcing smart meter installations.

Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) based in Illinois charged more for smart meter refusers to force compliance. Other companies have demand compulsory installation of smart meters, some break into people's homes to forcefully install smart meters.

UK government plans fines and jail those who obstruct (dissent or oppose) installations. Also gives GEMA (Gas and Electricity Markets Authority) power to use utilities as 'enforcement authorities' who can hypothetically 'shed load' (disconnect people from the grid). UK government has signalled wanting to disconnect the public from the grid arbitrarily before.

Smart meters in the UK were built by a Chinese state-sponsored company and poses a national security risk. Previous Chinese hardware has been shown to contain intentional vulnerabilities.

Smart meter installing companies have tried to sue to suppress evidence of backdoors and vulnerabilities. These allow attackers to see your usage data, what devices you're using, remotely control the meter, cause it to catch on fire or explode via malicious code.

Grid operators have used the smart grid to interfere with people's devices, turning up thermostats remotely during a heatwave. Some show pure malice: giving advice resulting in members of the public getting electocuted, maliciously firing workers who try to report the truth on smart meters, and criminally tampering with evidence at crime scene investigations.

EU seeks a digital mass surveillance state controlling everything.

Governments have tried to use everything to force smart meters onto people: breaking and entering, peddling ultimately debunked lies about 'saving money', financially penalising non-compliance, telling people it is compulsory.

Germany also seeks to bankrupt Germans by insisting heating power sources are 65% renewable by mandate, a great cost many cannot afford during this economic crisis; essentially forcing them to sell their homes and rent out.

Governments now plan to install remotely controllable water meters. Given they have cut off water supplies during a fire emergency in Maui, there's nothing to say they won't do it again for political intrigue and dissent.

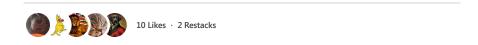
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Raise awareness?

What do you think, dear reader? Let us know in the comments.



1 Comment



I'm in UK and have had solar panels for over 10 years. Before I knew anything about ESGs and the Agenda, my electric meter was to be replaced and I was told SMART meters not compatible with solar panels. Now I get monthly texts telling me to book my installation which they say they are "compelled" by government to fit. My FIT tarrif provider is no longer my energy provider although easy enough to find out as I get weekly calls from different companies to "maintain" my solar panels.

