

**FIRES AND BURNED-UP APPLIANCES:** “We encountered an unusual amount of fire incidents involving smart meters . . . prior to any proper investigation the utility company had removed and replaced the meters from the affected areas . . . New meters may have defects that cause electrical failures (or they may be caused by) careless installation during change over...” —Ontario Fire Marshal (Quoted by Scott Simpson, Vancouver Sun, August 7, 2012)



## There are many serious health problems from “Smart” meters

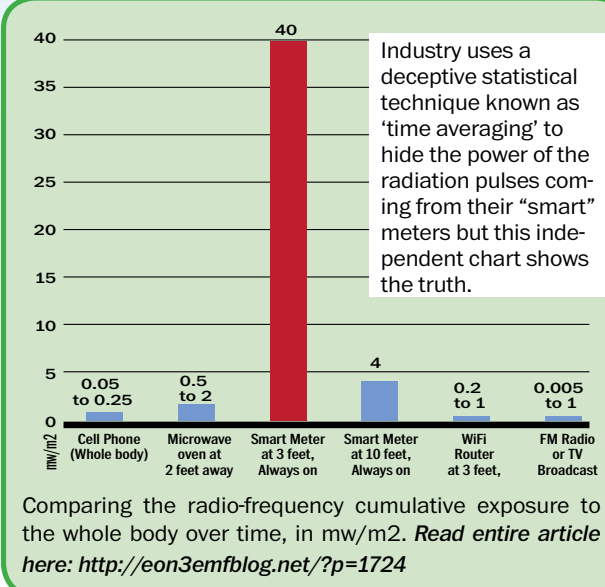
**Cancer & RF Radiation.** The World Health Organization and the International Agency For Research On Cancer state that radio frequency (RF) electromagnetic fields (EMF) from non-ionizing radiation-emitting devices [such as “smart” meters] are a Class 2-B CARCINOGEN, which means they may cause cancer. Documented EMF studies also show: DNA breaks, ADD/ADHD, endocrine disruption, heart arrhythmia, and more.

“Smart” meters pulse RF radiation up to 190,000 times every day according to utility documents. *Children, pregnant women, seniors, people with immune deficiencies and with medical conditions and implants are especially at risk. Also pets and plants.*

**Upon installation of smart meters,** some people report headaches, ringing ears, dizziness, breathing problems, insomnia, nausea, cognitive problems, memory loss, muscle spasms, heart problems, and even seizures. Some have had to abandon their homes. *These symptoms only began after smart meters were installed.*

**Time bomb.** Is there scientific proof that EMF are harmful? *The majority of studies—not industry-funded—say YES!* Visit [smartmeterdangers.org](http://smartmeterdangers.org) (click RESEARCH) to read dozens of unbiased studies. At first, the dangers of smoking and asbestos were ignored. Many illnesses, like cancer, take years to develop. **Are you willing to allow the utilities to put your family’s health at risk?** “Smart” meters are the Trojan Horse of our time.

“Adverse neurological effects have been reported in people who sustain close proximity to wireless meters, especially under 10 feet,” say 54 experts in 20 countries, including Joel Moskowitz of UC Berkeley School of Public Health and David Carpenter, Director, University of Albany Institute for Health and the Environment. More: <http://tinyurl.com/rfmeters>



**To date, 57 California cities and counties have registered opposition to the “smart” meter program, including:**

**Cities:** Arcata • Belvedere • Berkeley • Big Valley Rancheria • Blue Lake • Bolinas • Buellton • Calabasas • Camp Meeker • **Capitola** • Carpinteria • Clearlake • Cotati • **Fairfax** • Fillmore • Fort Bragg • Goleta • Grover Beach • Lakeport • Marina • Mill Valley • Monterey • Monte Sereno • Morro Bay • Mount Shasta • Novato • **Ojai** • Pacific Grove • Palo Alto • Piedmont • Richmond • **Rio Dell** • **Ross** • San Anselmo • San Francisco • San Luis Obispo • San Rafael • Santa Barbara • Sausalito • Scotts Valley • **Seaside** • Sebastopol • Simi Valley • Solvang • Thousand Oaks • **Watsonville** **Counties:** Humboldt • **Lake** • **Marin** • **Mendocino** • San Francisco • San Luis Obispo • Santa Barbara • **Santa Cruz** • Sausalito • Sonoma • Tehama • Ventura (red indicates official ban by local ordinance)

*The California Coalition to STOP “Smart” Meters is a non-partisan group of organizations and individuals helping to coordinate statewide efforts to inform people about the risks of smart meters and the smart grid. To donate: [www.stopsmartmeters.org/donate](http://www.stopsmartmeters.org/donate) (Specify it’s for CaliforniaCoalitiontoStopSmartMeters.Org.)*



## WHAT CAN WE DO?

- ✓ **Inform elected officials** that you oppose smart meters! Lodge a complaint with the CPUC about smart meters and extortionate fees: Call 866-849-8390 or visit [www.tinyurl.com/bn5s3lz](http://www.tinyurl.com/bn5s3lz)
  - ✓ **If you have an analog meter:**
    - Don’t allow installers on your property. Call police if they trespass. Form a neighborhood watch.
    - Send a certified letter (sample letter: <http://tinyurl.com/6ndzfsj>) to your utility denying consent to install.
    - Secure analog meters behind locked gates or lock box. (see examples <http://tinyurl.com/bcflb9u>)
    - You can agree to the ‘opt out’ fee program, or like many of us, you can refuse. As of Dec. 2012, no one in CA has been disconnected for refusing to pay ‘opt out’ fees. (Utilities are required to first send you a 15-day warning.)
    - Beware: gas and water meters are also going “smart.”
  - ✓ **If you have a “smart” meter:**
    - Keep your distance! Find out about shielding methods.
    - Revoke consent via certified letter to the utility and set a deadline for removal of existing smart meter.
    - Insist that the replacement meter(s) are purely electro-mechanical analogs. Ask them to confirm it in writing.
    - You can either formally “opt out” and pay the unjust fees (interim fees are \$75 to start and \$10/ month or \$10/ \$5 for CARE/ FERA customers) or refuse to pay.
- SCE: 1-800-810-2369 • PG&E: 1-866-743-0263  
SDG&E: 1-877-357-8525 • SMUD 1-888-742-7683**
- You can write “paid under duress” on your check. We are protesting fees and many are refusing to pay, though you may risk a possible disconnect.
  - Consider going off the grid: <http://tinyurl.com/a24ywxw>
  - ✓ **Document your story!** Got health problems? Been overcharged? Had a fire? Lodge a complaint here: <http://www.smartmeterhelp.com>
  - ✓ **Get wise!** Visit these affiliate sites: **StopSmartMeters.org • EMFSafetyNetwork.org • ElectroSmogPrevention.org**

*Wireless Microwave*

# “Smart” Utility Meters

*Are They Smart for You?*

## What is a “Smart” Meter?

It’s a digital—usually wireless—replacement for analog electric, gas and water meters. Unlike safe, electro-mechanical analogs, “smart” meters allow utilities, third parties, and government access to precise information about your private life, emit RF microwave radiation linked with health and environmental problems, increase utility bills, and can catch fire or damage appliances. Folks all across the USA and the world are rejecting “smart” meters and demanding a halt and a recall. Nevertheless, utility companies are spreading misleading information and continuing to force “smart” meters on the public. We have a right to say NO!

**VERIFY! Don’t take our word for it! Do an internet search and find out why millions of people around the world who’ve learned the facts about ‘smart’ meters, are saying “No thanks!” DID YOU KNOW: THERE IS NO LAW FORCING US TO ACCEPT A “SMART” METER OR TO PAY “OPT-OUT” FEES.**

## Why do the Utilities want to replace our reliable analog electric, gas and water meters with “smart” meters?

- To cut labor costs by firing meter readers.
- To charge you more money during “peak” hours.
- To ration your power, or remotely shut you off.
- To sell your personal energy usage information to marketers with products to sell.

## Why do electric bills rise after installation of a “smart” meter?

**High start-up currents** from motors like refrigerator compressors are averaged out by analog meters, but “smart” meters record them.

**Time-of-Use pricing.** Allows utilities to charge more during “peak” daytime usage hours.

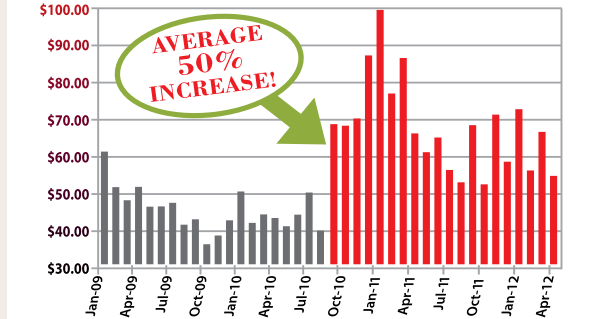
**Utilities say we’ll save money.** “Smart” meters just *measure* energy. Only YOU can *save* energy!

**“Smart” meters are NOT green.** The added power drain from installation and upkeep of millions of power-consuming “smart” meters will increase pollution and be charged to customers!

**“Opt out” fees** are expensive! Demanding payment to avoid a risk is usually called “extortion.”

**Check real-time usage online?** “Smart” meters can identify *which* appliance is drawing current, but the utilities only show your total usage online, not the itemized cost of each appliance.

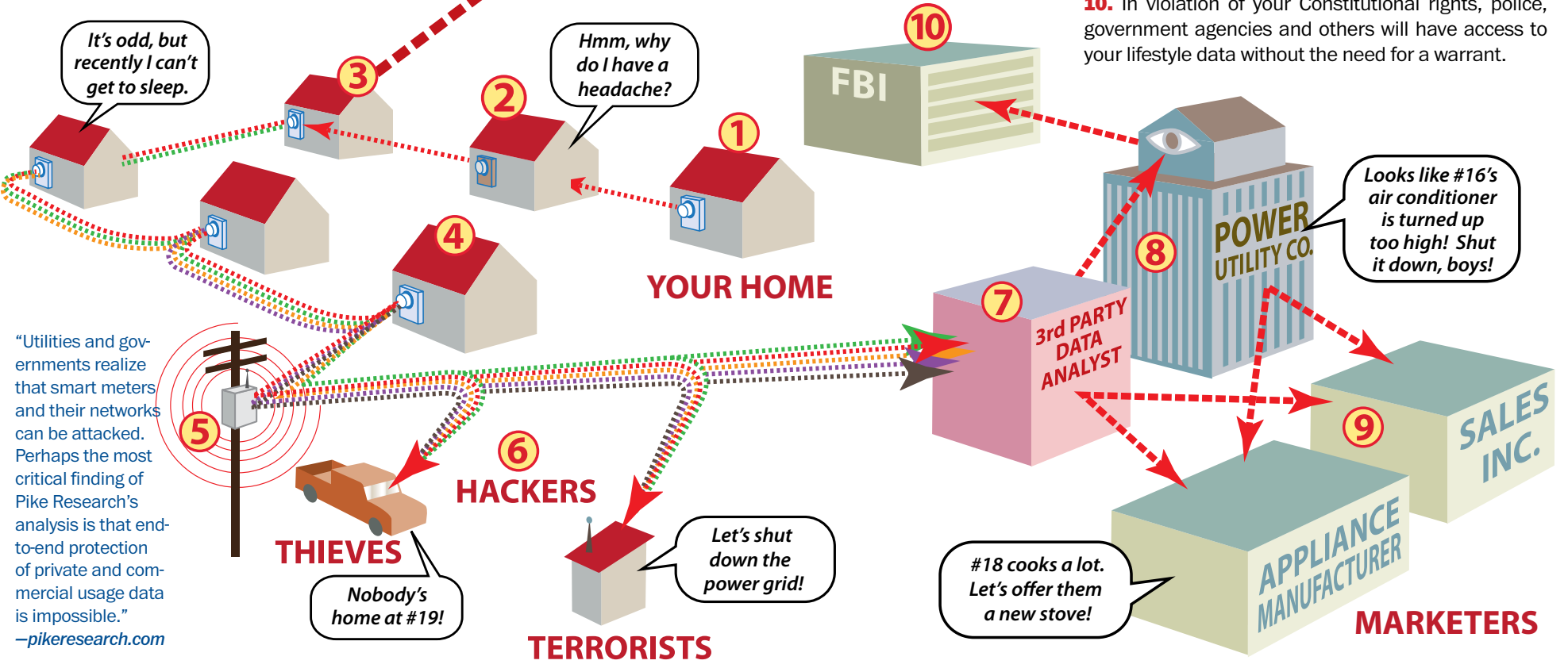
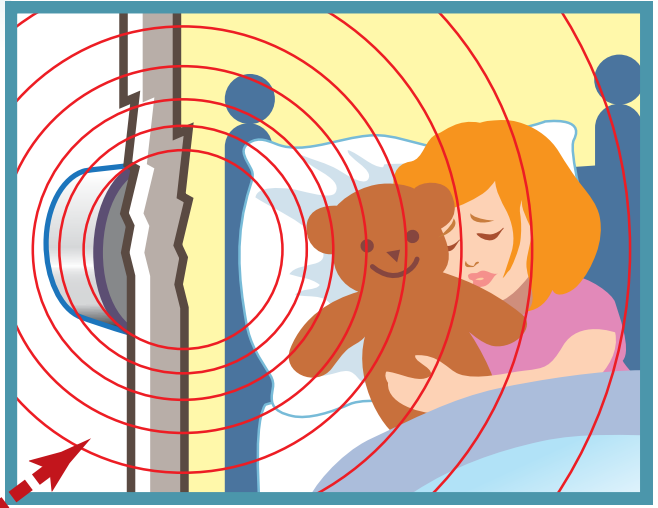
## An SDG&E customer’s bills show what the Utilities don’t want YOU to know:



(Bills before and after “smart” meter install in Sept. 2010)

# The Path of Your Privacy: How the “SMART” METER MESH NETWORK really works

1. In a “mesh network,” usage data is transmitted from one “smart” meter and sent by wireless microwave radio signals on to the next house’s meter, and the next . . .
2. Although a neighbor may **opt-out** by keeping their analog meter, they will still be exposed to microwave radiation from surrounding meters.
3. Anyone whose outside wall has a “smart” meter, or who lives adjacent to banks of meters, suffers bursts of pulsed microwave radiation, all day and night long.
4. Random homes get “collector meters,” through which data from hundreds of homes is funneled. Radiation exposure is dramatically multiplied for these families who are never informed that their meter is the “collector.”
5. The accumulated data is sent to the Utility’s data collection unit on a telephone pole (maybe near YOUR home) where it is sent on to a data collection company.



6. But first, the easily-hacked RF data may fall into the hands of hackers who may be thieves or terrorists.
7. A third-party company hired by the Utility receives detailed private data about your home activities—what appliances you use, how many people are at home, when you go to bed, when you go on vacation, etc.
8. The subcontractor analyzes the raw data and sends it on to the utility. With its “smart” ability to count every watt of usage as never before, the Utility mails out higher bills that shock its “smart” meter customers!
9. Utilities want us to buy smart-grid-enabled appliances (that also emit wireless radiation into our living spaces) so they can remotely power down or shut them off, and get more precise usage info that they can sell to manufacturers and marketers. Your personal info may also be sold by the data-analyst subcontractor.
10. In violation of your Constitutional rights, police, government agencies and others will have access to your lifestyle data without the need for a warrant.

Former CIA Director James Woolsey says the smart grid’s security vulnerabilities make it a “really, really stupid grid.”