

Commissioner

The Florida Public Service Commission's handling of the Smart Meter workshop on September 20, showed the citizens of Florida the Commission is/has always been in the corner of the utilities of the state. Such utilities are operating under a monopoly status the people of Florida have given them. Utilities are required under such monopoly status to provide to their customers good/reliable service at a competitive cost, sufficient to provide the utility a "reasonable" profit on its large capital investment base. The monopoly status conveyed by the people to the utilities does not give a utility the power/right to require their consumers to accept, without complaint, defective equipment in the ruse of saving the utility money.

The experience of millions of people in all states of the union with Smart Meters has produced massive resistance against installation of such meters on private residences and businesses. Many states and local governments have stepped up in support of their citizens and approved legislation allowing their citizens to refuse installation. Many local governments in California have made it a felony to install a smart meter without permission of the utility customer. Connecticut quickly saw the potential problems with smart meters and refuses any such installation until the problems are solved to its government's satisfaction---which will be never. Vermont approved Opt Out legislation for their citizens and at no additional cost to those who choose to refuse installation.

I have read a letter where the PSC's position is there is no Smart Meter rebellion by Floridians going on given FPL has advised you less than 2% of citizens have refused installation. Let me clearly advise you the reason the refusal rate truly might be that low is the fact that not more than 2% of Floridians have any knowledge of the dangers and problems associated with this equipment---given the utilities will not disclose such problems unless confronted by customers in the know and the Obama driven media for the most part will not disclose such problems given that Smart Meters are Obama's battering ram to quickly move to higher fossil fuel costs nationally (and therefore much higher utility charges to customers) in the next few years---making his pet Green Energy alternatives more competitive. The problem is the Green Energy alternatives (currently only 8% of all energy consumed in the U.S. with solar and wind representing a miniscule .78%) cannot replace fossil fuel (currently fossil fuel represents 83% of all energy consumed in the U.S.) in the next generation---as documented by Obama's own U.S. Energy Information Administration, which states alternative energies will grow to only 13% of all energy consumed by 2035.

I have first hand experience with the ignorance of the FPL customers on the subject of smart meters. **Attached** is a paper covering the subject, which paper I have distributed (about 300 copies) randomly to FPL customers in Charlotte County. Of the 300 people with whom I provided the paper and discussed this issue, only 4 (1.3%) knew the issues concerning smart meters and 80% did not even know a smart meter had been installed on their premises.

For your information, in June 2012 the Charlotte County Commission unanimously issued a resolution recommending the utilities in Florida, the state government and the Public Service Commission allow any utility customer to refuse installation of a smart meter at no additional cost to the refusing customer. There have been other counties and cities in Florida, which have taken the same position. The previous month (May) the CC commission allotted FPL and me 20 minutes each to present the cases of smart meter installation vs. smart meter refusal. After that debate, the Commission immediately approved the issuance of an OPT OUT for Charlotte County citizens.

I list in my paper nine reasons why utility customers should refuse a smart meter. The incidences of health and fire/explosion problems associated with smart meters are well documented across the country and lawsuits are beginning to proliferate. One of the statements I made to the Charlotte County Commissions, which deeply resonated with them, was-- if RF emissions exposure health problems (now supported by a multitude of medical and scientific studies from credible international sources) and fire/explosion lawsuits (Philadelphia just stopped Smart Meter installations due to a rash of fires, which have also now occurred in Florida) begin occurring in Charlotte County (which they ultimately will if the PSC and the legislature agree to back Crony Capitalism instead of the citizens of Florida in this battle) Charlotte County would be listed as a co-defendant if its elected officials did nothing to stop FPL's legally unauthorized "mandated" installation of Smart Meters. Obviously, the Commission saw this situation as a future problem for them and, therefore, was very wise and agreed to the OPT OUT resolution.

I will provide the PSC with the same warning as I provided to the CC commissioners, to Governor Scott, AG Bondi, Lt. Governor Carroll, to Rep. Roberson and Senator Detert. If you stick the citizens of Florida with this defective equipment, there will assuredly be a major incidence of lawsuits occurring in the next few years and the PSC, the Florida State government and any local governmental entity, which did not provide its citizens with the protection of an OPT OUT legislation, will be named as defendants in such suits.

The Smart Meter problem is a constitutional citizens' right's problem. Such a problem should not be addressed by unelected bureaucrats, which have no jurisdiction to rule against the citizens of any state on a right's problem. The PSC should immediately place this issue immediately in the hands of the governor, the legislature and the office of the Attorney General, who are the people's elected officials. On non-rate matters, PSC's nationally have historically sided with the companies they regulate (not with the people who are normally the most passive, but most unrepresented group), and so **the PSC should not have any power to rule on this matter.**

If the citizens are not given the right of refusal (upon being educated as to the problems/defects of Smart Meters), the only winners in this battle will be FPL and its holding company. FPL accepted \$200M from the Department of Energy with strings attached (such grants always have strings attached) to further President Obama's failed energy policies and when fossil fuel prices continue their rise (as Obama said would happen), FPL will coin money via (1) pass through to customers of higher energy costs [bigger revenues will provide much better fixed cost coverage]; and (2) profits from the alternative energy portion (about 50%) of their holding company will boom as the gap between fossil fuel and alternative energy costs substantially narrow. Additionally, FPL tells its customers it will save money on eliminating all meter reading personnel. This is one of the many lies FPL has put out for public consumption on the Smart Meter issue. FPL made an announcement a few months ago that all meter readers will not be terminated, but they will be offered another job in the holding company. A smart meter cram down on utility customers is unacceptable and if the PSC is complicit in this Crony Capitalism scam you can rest assured Floridians will rebel against you. Just remember our elected officials (with our consent) gave public utilities monopoly status and we the people are adamant that that monopoly status is not operable when the utility chooses to force upon us services/products/equipment, which we deem not in our best interests.

Commissioner: On this very important issue, will you be with the people or will you be against the people? The evidence is substantial on the side of the people.