

POWER METER PROJECT

A CASE
INVOLVING THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL
HEALTH
OF
NORMA HAILEY MARTIN

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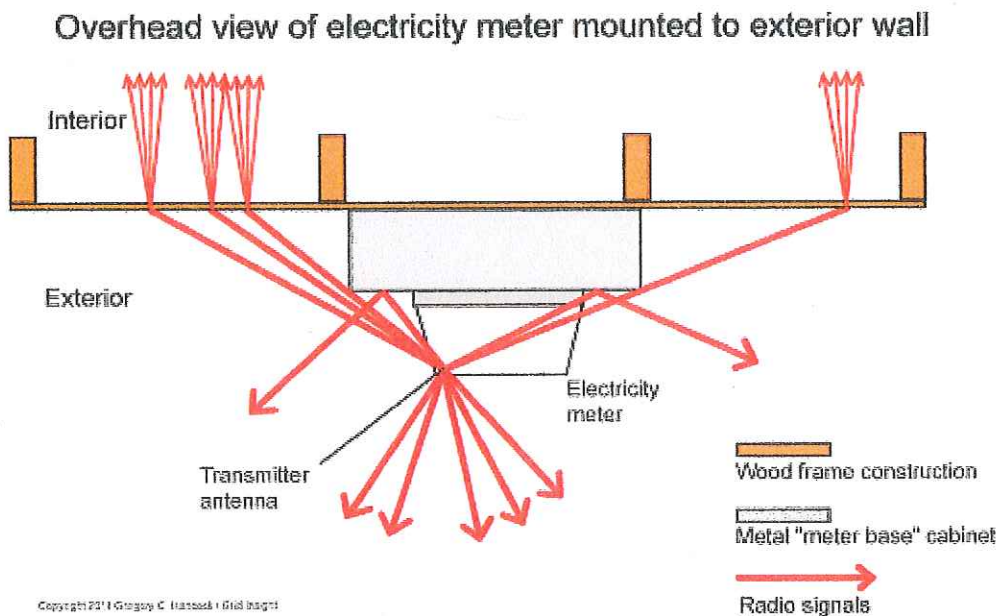


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AMR radio signal propagation

AMR signal propagation



Utility meter data signals, having been originally intended for reception from the street by a drive-by, vehicle-mounted receiver or from a stationary receiver mounted to the top of a streetlight pole, pose some reception challenges when the receiver is located inside the building to which the transmitting meter is attached. However, these challenges need not be obstacles.

In the 900 MHz radio frequency range, the frequency band in which many utility data transmitters operate, radio waves will travel easily through low-density construction, like the wood-framed walls

and floors of many American houses. The signals even travel fairly well through denser materials like concrete and brick. The real obstacle is metal, and, unfortunately, many electric utility meters are separated from the house they serve by a metal cabinet.

Despite metal obstacles, radio signals benefit from two rather useful behavioral characteristics:

1. they can bounce off objects, and
2. they can bend and disperse when passing through or around objects.

So, even when a metal barrier (like a steel meter cabinet) completely blocks the direct signal path between transmitter and receiver, chances are that a reflection of the signal will get through anyway. The reflected/refracted signals will not be as strong as a direct signal, so they will not travel very far. But in most homes, they will travel far enough to reach your computer.

If you have problems picking up your meter signals from your computer, try changing the orientation of your receiver's antenna. If you are using a short antenna, try using a full-size dipole antenna instead. Also remember that your computer's metal case can itself block or reflect signals.

Also remember that signals can bounce off almost anything -- a neighbor's house, a car, a tree, a deck railing. If you can move your computer around a bit within the house, you will find that certain locations provide far better reception than others.

The diagram below shows how this works with a wall mount electric meter. Water and gas meters behave similarly, but tend not be as temperamental due to not being mounted in a metal box facing away from the house.

If you learn something about AMR signal propagation in your own home that you think might help others, please leave a comment below.

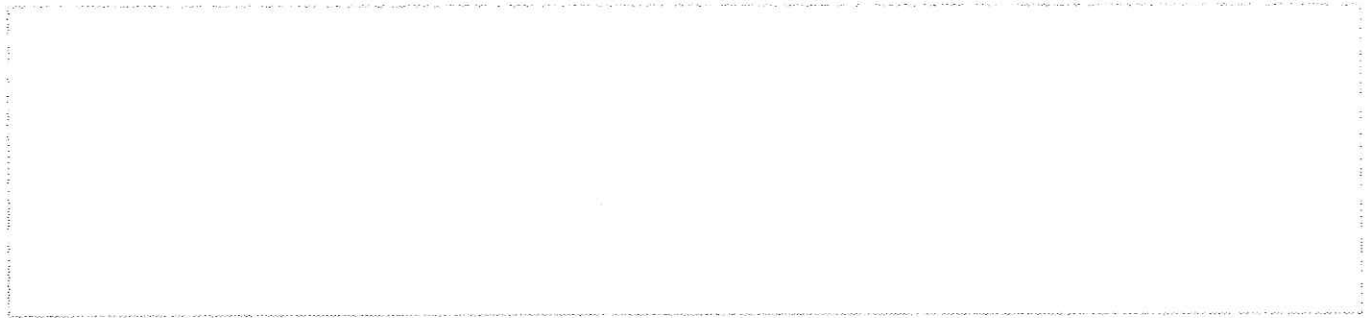
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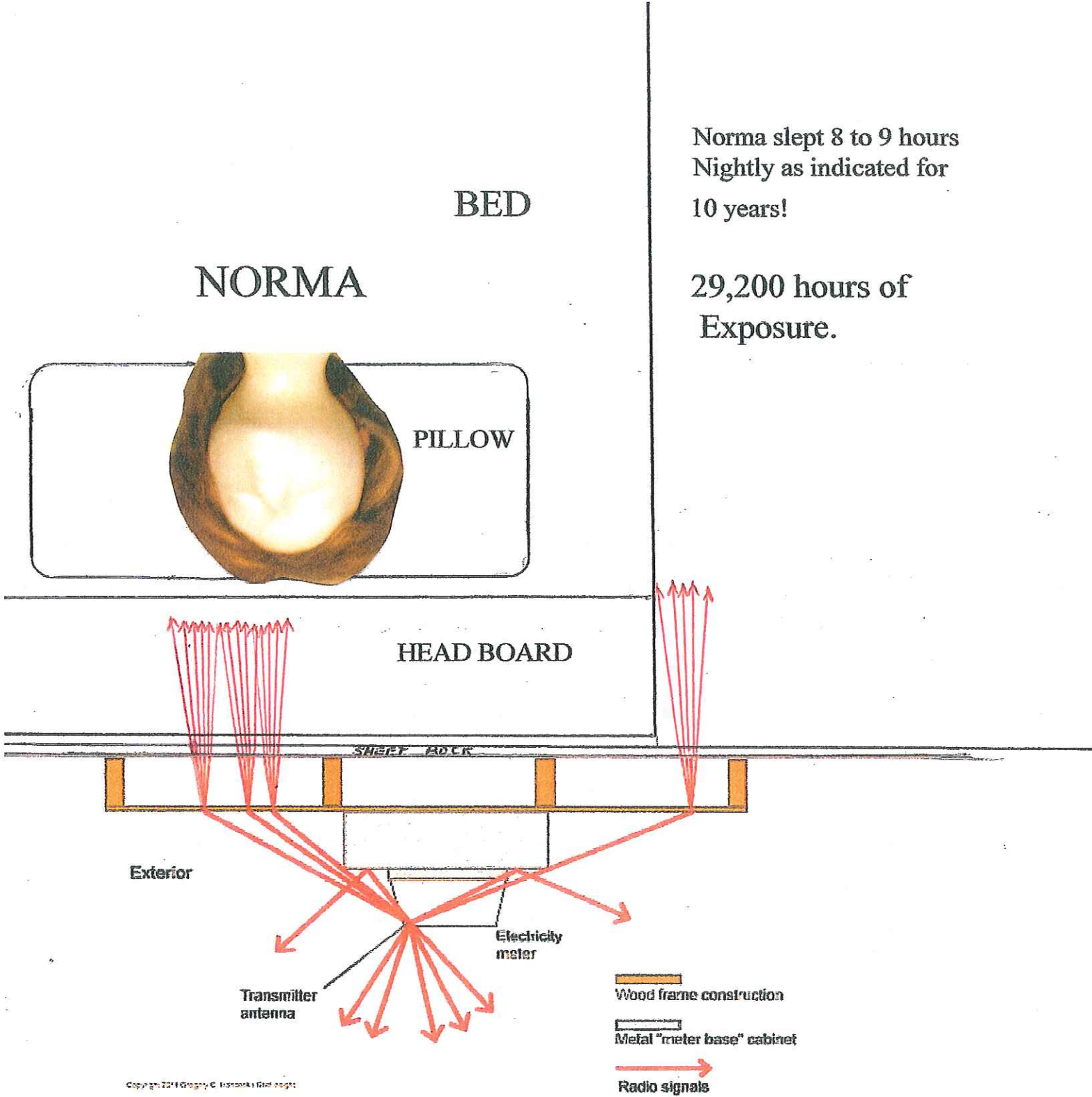
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Norma slept 8 to 9 hours
Nightly as indicated for
10 years!

29,200 hours of
Exposure.

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2001 Physical, healthy
2002 Physical, healthy
2003 Physical, healthy
2004 Physical, healthy
2005, no visits
2006 Physical, healthy (02-08-06)

On March 28, 2006, Progress Energy (now Duke Energy Progress) Replaced the analog power meter with a new SMART METER which by the use of Radio Frequency energy transmit's the energy consumption values to be read at a remote location.

The location of this meter is in the master bedroom wall 15 inches directly behind and at the same level of Norma's head when sleeping..(see included diagram and photographs).

EVENTS TIMELINE

- 07-27-07 Appointment with family physician, Dr. Alger Hamrick, to discuss memory problems that Norma started a number of months back and now have become a major concern.
- 09-01-07 Norma is at "Raleigh MRI Center" getting brain tests.
- 09-24-07 Norma is at "Carolina Neuropsychological Service "getting more tests.
- 10-19-07 Norma is at Dr. Alger Hamrick's office to discuss results of memory tests.
- 11-21-07 Norma is at Dr. Alger Hamrick's office because she stops breathing for 2 or 3 minutes many times during the night. Dr. Hamrick referring us to Raleigh Neurology Association (DR.Perkins)
- 01-17-08 Consultations with Dr. Perkins.(Raleigh Neurology) "Sleep study scheduled).
- 01-22-08 and 02-10-08 Sleep study performed.(Raleigh Neurology, Dr. Perkins).
- 02-29-08 Norma now has to use a "CPAP" machine when she sleeps.(Dr. Perkins).
- 08-08-08 Norma at Duke Raleigh Hospital due to passing out every day or so. (she would lose concious and Collapse.) No problem was found and referred us to a heart doctor
- 08 18-08 Dr. Hamrick says Norma has growths on her Thyroid. (Schedules her to UNC thyroid doctors.)
- 08-21-08 Norma is at Dr. Falsone (heart doctor) to discuss passing out.(thinks might be a heart problem).
- 08-27-08 Norma is at "Raleigh Neurology" Dr. Patricia Naslund to discuss passing out problems.
- 09-05-08 Dr. Patricia Naslund Gives Norma EEG.
- 09-24-08 Dr. Rubin at UNC Medical discuss Thyroid tests and schedules a Biopsy due to growths.
- 10-14-08 Dr. Naslund visit and she prescribed medicine to prevent passing out.

- 10-28-08 Dr. Falsone gives Norma a treadmill test. Does not find a heart problem.
- 12-03-08 Norma is back at Dr. Naslund's office as medicine has not stopped passing out problem.
- 02-25-09 Norma back to Dr. Falsone for check-up and no problems found.
- 08-26-09 Dr. Rubin at "UNC" does Head and Neck echo tests on Norma's thyroid. Growths have not increased in size. She will continue periodic tests to make sure growths are now benign.
- 10-10-09 After months of Dr. Naslund giving Norma numerous prescriptions of Gabapentin for passing out problems, she also added a Dilantin prescription. This has controlled the passing out problem to the present time. She continued to see Dr. Naslund until she entered an assisted living facility in April of 2016

Norma continued to see Drs Rubin,(Thyroid), Naslund,(Passing out and memory),and Dr.Hamrick for the many years her memory has continue to deteriorate which began shortly after the SMART METER Installation. She has required full supervision since 2010.

- 04-04-16 Norma entered a assisted living facility due to total inability to care for herself such as toiletry, eating, bathing, dressing, and all mental functions such as recognition of family.

After the SMART METER installation

Norma started and has taken the following prescriptions due to the above EFFECTS::

Namenda	(memory)	6205 pills	
Aricept	(memory)	6205 pills	
Dilantin	(passing out)	5110 pills	
Gabapentin	(passing out)	5110 pills	Totals=22,630 pills

Before the SMART METER installation

Norma was a very healthy woman. She was very active in church and family activities. Was an excellent homemaker and cook. Was the one that remembered all the family birthdates and appointments. This all began to change within a year after the METER INSTALATION.

I myself also slept besides Norma and had much difficulty getting to sleep and would wake abruptly with noises that sounded like loud crashes only to find everything quiet and ok. I found that if I turned and slept with my head at the bottom of the bed, I slept fine but caused problems with the bed covers. I then thought my problem was was the result of the hum of the C-PAP machine, so I started sleeping in another bedroom mid 2008 and then got a good nights sleep. About that time, I also started tinnitus which. I still deal with. I now see a cardiologist for "PVCs" with no explanation of either cause.

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DECEMBER 2007



AUGUST 2016