



Massachusetts Association for the Chemically Injured, Inc.

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Attachment to the Massachusetts Association for the Chemically Injured's Testimony on H.3551 & S.2306, June 12, 2025

A statement highlighting points on two questionnaire surveys on smart meters and health effects that are reported on in the section from pp.4 – 6 in the Reply Comment from the Massachusetts Association for the Chemically Injured, Inc. to the Department of Public Utilities on D.P.U. 12-76 Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into Modernization of the Electric Grid (March 2014).

In addition to the first hand life experiences of the [health and safety hearing] panel members, the epidemiological studies that look at prevalence of chemical sensitivity and EHS in the population and the individual studies reported in the scientific literature documenting health effects to EMFs/RF several questionnaire surveys have been conducted and reported on regarding smart meters and health effects. Observations, by the individual and/or by physicians, scientists and researchers are part of the scientific process and can assist with recognition and advancing an issue. The use of questionnaire surveys with data collection is very useful in documenting and gathering information in the scientific process.

1). Dr. Karl Maret whose comment to the CCST was submitted into the DPU docket record was a presenter at the National Institute for Science, Law & Public Policy interdisciplinary program "The High Road to a True Smart Grid" at the Commonwealth Club, January 28, 2014.

The title of his presentation was "EMF Health Concerns associated with RF Metering in California's Smart Grid". You may view his full presentation and download the pdf of his slides. (<http://gettingsmarteraboutthesmartgrid.org>)

Dr. Maret cites data from the EMF Safety Network questionnaire survey **"Wireless Utility Safety Impacts Survey"**.

The stated objectives of the survey

"were to investigate reported public health and safety complaints about wireless utility meters;
to evaluate the impacts on health and safety due to wireless utility meters and
to determine whether further study is warranted."(10)

In answer to the question "Are you, or is a member of your household, EMF sensitive? (EMF sensitivity is also called electrical sensitivity, or electrohypersensitivity)

439 respondents answered:

Yes 48.7%=214,

No 11.2%=49,

I don't know 40.1%=176." (10)

One slide in Dr. Maret's presentation shows the top 5 health issues the respondents identified - new or worsened symptoms - after smart meters were installed

- Sleep Issues= 49%
- Stress, anxiety, irritability = 43%
- Headaches=40%
- Ringing in Ears= 38%
- Heart Problems/palpitations=26%. (14)

(The full study can be found through a link within the intro to the survey at <http://emfsafetynetwork.org/survey-results-wireless-meters-impact-health-and-safety/>)

2). Another survey, "SMART METER HEALTH EFFECTS SURVEY" was written by Richard Conrad, Ph.D. (conradbiologic.com) and Ed. Friedman (Maine Coalition to Stop Smart Meters) and was submitted in testimony as Exhibit D, Pre-Filed Testimony of Richard Conrad, Ph.D.; MPUC Docket No. 2011-00262.

In testimony Dr. Conrad's response to the question What is the purpose of the Smart Meter Health Effects Survey? is:

"The purpose was to develop reliable data much more solid than ordinary anecdotal evidence, about possible smart meter health effects, and their time-line (development of symptoms in relation to installation of smart meter in relation to knowledge of meter's presence)."

"The survey was designed to discover if the health effects/symptoms that many persons have been attributing to smart meter exposures were really caused by those exposures or not."

Two of the key questions to be answered were:

1. do smart meters initiate electrical sensitivities in previously normal persons, and
 2. do smart meters worsen the electrical sensitivities in persons who were already electrically sensitive."
- (6, p.8)

In response to What are the conclusions of the Smart Meter Health Effects Survey? Dr. Conrad responded:

"The survey results provide very strong evidence that smart meters are causing painful and debilitating new symptoms in many previously normal healthy people, and causing them to become electrically sensitive to a whole range of electronic devices including Wi-Fi, cell phones and computers. Because of exposure to smart meters, people are becoming electrically sensitive at an unprecedented rate. Many of these people had previously lived with Wi-Fi in their homes on 24/7, worked in offices with Wi-Fi and many computers all day long, and had used cell phones, all without symptoms. This includes professionals from all walks of life: doctors, dentists, nurses, teachers, realtors, salesmen and many who absolutely needed their computers for their work and had loved electronic devices: computer programmers, electronic engineers, accountants and graphic artists." (6, p.10)

Dr. Conrad further testified "the study results show that in:

1. 210 survey respondents,
2. the majority well-educated (9 PhDs, 1 MD, 1 DDS, 42 MS or MA, 70 BS or BA),
3. many initially healthy and normal, without sensitivities, using WiFi, computers and cell phones without symptoms,
4. many had no prior knowledge of electrical sensitivities and had not cared one way or another about smart meters,
5. all began to develop painful symptoms very typical of electrical sensitivities (including loud tinnitus, heart palpitations or arrhythmias, burning skin, severe headaches, neuropathies, difficulty concentrating, sleep problems and more) soon after their smart meters were installed,
6. where 42% of them were not even aware that a smart meter had been installed on their home until after they developed symptoms (a double-blind "experiment"), and 16% did not develop symptoms until weeks or months later (if they were going to have psychosomatic symptoms, these would have developed in minutes, hours or days, not 2 weeks or months), and
7. when they were able to have the smart meters removed, their symptoms lessened usually immediately, sometimes completely, and usually leaving them with electrical sensitivities where they no longer can use their electronic office equipment at all, or only for very short periods of time." (6, pp.12-13)

References:

6. Conrad, Richard, Ph.D. Pre-Filed Testimony of Richard Conrad, Ph.D., MPUC Docket No. 2011-00262.
10. Halteman, Ed, Consultant, "Wireless Utility Safety Impacts Survey" EMF Safety Network questionnaire survey, 2011.
14. Maret, Karl, M.D., presentation "EMF Health Concerns associated with RF Metering in California's Smart Grid" at the National Institute for Science, Law & Public Policy interdisciplinary program "The High Road to a True Smart Grid", January 28, 2014