

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO
Consumer Service Division
Memorandum

CASE ID: 00243500

COMPANY:

CUSTOMER: Benjamin J Sunderhaus

ADDRESS: 2630 Franks Drive, Lima, Ohio 45807

SERVICE ADDRESS: 2630 Franks Dr., Lima, OH 45807

AIQ: Ohio Power Company

NIQ: (419) 996-9763

DOCKETING CASE #: 17-1842-EL-ORD

SUBJECT: Ohio Power Company - Smart Grid

Please docket the attached in the case number above.

AMI Opt Out Customer Acknowledgment ("Acknowledgment")

Account Name ("Customer"): _____

Account Number: _____

Service Address: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Customer hereby requests non-standard, digital metering equipment. Customer understands and acknowledges that Customer will be required to pay the approved \$24.00 monthly fee that will be included their monthly bill.

Customer hereby agrees to release, hold harmless, and indemnify AEP Ohio, American Electric Power Company, Inc. and all of their affiliated companies, and any of their officers, directors, employees, and agents from and against losses, liabilities, costs, expenses, suits, actions, and claims, including claims arising out of injuries to persons or damage to property, caused by or in any way attributable to or related to Customer's request for non-standard metering service, the removal of advanced metering equipment, and/or the subsequent installation of non-standard metering equipment.

In order to complete your request for a non-standard, digital meter, you must sign and return this AMI Opt Out Customer Acknowledgment (the "Acknowledgment") to:

AEP Ohio SMARTgrid Customer Support
PO Box 360894
Columbus, Ohio 43218-9998

Customer hereby acknowledges that Customer has read, understands, and agrees to this Acknowledgment, release and indemnification.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Name (printed): _____

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Docketing Division

180 E. Broad St.

Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Case# 47-1842-EL-ORD

Dear PUCO:

Recently my residence in Lima, OH has been targeted by AEP Ohio for installation of a 'smart meter' or AMI meter. I have been following 'smart meter' news and studies for many years and have come to the conclusion that I really do not want one at my residence (or neighboring residences for that matter). There is risk involved with these AMI meters. Risk to the health of biological life from EMF frequency from the meter itself and from the dirty electricity caused by the 'switching-mode power supply' (SMPS) that causes electromagnetic interference (EMI) in the wiring that will travel through the walls of my home, risk to my home from damage that could result from a failure of the AMI meter such as fire. Risk to my privacy as my electricity usage data will now be taken and stored with no guaranteed safeguards or insurance to hacking or misuse. I even read a public comment that was wonderfully written explaining how these meters violate FCC standards as noted by an amateur radio operator.

Where there is risk involved, it is an individual's right to not give consent or not be party to whatever it is that brings the risk. I do not wish to belabor all of the reasons why 'smart meters' are bad idea as there are already dozens of cases documented on the PUCO website with hundreds of well written public comments. It is obvious that it doesn't matter if consumers/customers/citizens have serious complaints or concerns because if it did, then there would be more consumer choice embedded in the regulations of the Ohio Administrative Code. People have been demanding the ability to retain their electromechanical meters without paying tariffs for almost a decade and it appears to have fallen on deaf ears here in Ohio. Many other states are rejecting AMI plans. Why is there no option for a physician's notarized letter to deny smart meter usage on a residence? There are many people who have EMF sensitivity that is actually classified as a legal disability. Why is there no other way to retain an electromechanical meter and take a photo with a smartphone app each month? Wouldn't that reduce costs? How much to develop an app that can take a photo of the meter? I can tell you it would be a fraction of the costs of the current AMI plans.

I am only given three options from AEP Ohio and I do not like any of them. Before I list these options, I want to make a point of interest for PUCO to consider action. AEP Ohio does not list these options and the details of these options on their official website. Please visit here <https://www.aepohio.com/info/smartmeters/FAQs.aspx> and scroll down to see the "What if I don't want a smart meter" FAQ (Frequently Asked Question) to see what I am referring. They only tell you that you can 'opt-out' and pay a fee or pay a fee to have a 'smart meter' removed. They don't explain that you have to sign a liability waiver if you 'opt-out'. They don't tell you that the 'opt-out' meter is actually a digital 'non-emitting' meter so the electromechanical meter is still going to be replaced. They don't tell you that you can move your metering location and have the 'smart meter' installed there. All three of the options listed below should be easily accessible to anyone by visiting their website. PUCO, you really need to make them put these options on their website available to the public. 1) I take the

smart meter and have it installed directly in the current metering location. 2) I 'opt-out' and get a 'non-emitting' meter which has been proven to still emit EMF, and then pay a monthly fee of \$24. Keep in mind that this 'non-emitting' meter still has the SMPS and causes EMI and significantly increases the risk of damage to my residence and my family's health from a potential failure of the meter and causing a fire. Also, in order to choose this option, AEP Ohio requires that I sign a liability waiver releasing AEP Ohio and all affiliated companies from legal responsibility. (I have attached a copy of this form) If there is an 'opt-out' it should not have any legal waivers associated with it and I hope that PUCO will remove the ability of any public utility to demand legal immunity for their equipment and services. 3) I may make arrangements to have my metering point moved away from the residence/structure within a reasonable timeline to be determined to be agreed upon with AEP. To take this option, I will incur all of the costs associated with the relocation.

I have made my decision to move my metering point away from my home and to install the smart meter. I believe that if I have the room to move the meter away from the home it will certainly benefit AEP Ohio but only very minutely, myself and my family. I will be mitigating the risk of failure and fire if the meter should malfunction as it will be far away from the home. I still have all the risks to my family's health from dirty electricity SMPS/EMI, privacy invasion (4th Amendment violation), and then exorbitant costs to pay contractors to do the work. The issue that I want PUCO to address is to remove most or all of the burden for relocation of the metering location. It is more of a benefit to AEP Ohio than to the consumer to have the smart meter installed, so why are they not covering the costs of relocating the metering location if the customer accepts the smart meter? PUCO, please address this.

With regards to an electrical utility, I have no other choice than to get my power from AEP. I expect PUCO to help give consumers as many options as possible so we can all get what we want.

All of my concerns also extend to the natural gas and water utility companies as I am certain that 'smart meters' for those services are going to be coming down the line sooner than later. There are risks involved with these meters and human beings have a natural right to refuse consent when risk is involved.

Regards,

Ben Sunderhaus
2630 Franks Dr.
Lima, OH 45807
419-996-9763

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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Summary: Public Comment received via website electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing.